PUNJAB ADMINISTRATION REPORT

1906-1907

PUNJAB ADMINISTRATION REPORT,
1906-1907.

Agents for the Sale of Punjab Government Publications.

IN LONDON.

E. A. ARNOLD, 41 and 43, Maddox Street, Bond Street, W.

CONSTABLE & Co., 10, Orange Street, Leicester, Spuare, W. C.

GRINDLAY & Co., 54, Parliament Street, S. W.

HENRY S. KING & Co., 65, Cornhill, E. C.

P. S. KING & SON, 2 and 4, Great Smith Street, Westminster, S. W.

KEGAN PAUL, TRENCH, TRÜBNER & Co., 43, Gerrard Street, Soho, W.

B. QUARITCH, 11, Grafton Street, New Bond Street, W.

T. FISHER UNWIN, 1, Adelphi Terrace, W. C.

ON THE CONTINENT.

FRIEDLANDER & SOHN, 11, Carlstrasse Berlin.

OTTO HARRASSOWITZ, Leipzig.

KARL W. HIERSEMANN, Leipzig.

ERNEST LEROUX, 28, Rue Bonaparte, Paris

MARTINUS NIJHOFF, The Hague.

RUDOLF HAUPT, HALLE, A. S., Germany.

W. THACKER & COY., 2 Creed Lane, London, E. C.

IN INDIA.

THACKER, SPINK & Co., Calcutta & Simla.

NEWMAN & Co., Calcutta.

R. CAMBRAY & Co., Calcutta.

THACKER & Co., Bombay.

HIGGINBOTHAM & Co., Madras.

V. KALYANARAM IYER & Co., 189, Esplanade Row, Madras.

G. A. NATESAN & Co., Madras.

SUPERINTENDENT, AMERICAN BAPTIST MISSION PRESS, Rangoon.

A. CHAND & Co., Imperial Book Depôt Office, Delhi.

GULAB SINGH & SONS, Mufid-i-'Am Press, Lahore.

MANAGER, Punjab Law Book Depôt, Anarkali Bazar, Lahore.

S. MUMTAZ ALI & SON, Rafah-i-Am Press, Lahore [for Vernacular Publications only].

MANAGER, The Aryan Printing, Publishing and General Trading Co., Limited, Lahore.

REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

PUNJAB AND ITS DEPENDENCIES

FOR

1906-1907.

LAHORE:
PRINTED AT THE PUNJAB GOVERNMENT PRESS,
MCMVIII.

PRINTED BY LALA SITA RAM,
SUPERINTENDENT, PUNJAB GOVERNMENT PRESS, LAHORE.

CONTENTS.

PART I.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

PART II.

DEPARTMENTAL CHAPTERS.

CHAPTER I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

CHAPTER II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

CHAPTER III.—PROTECTION.

CHAPTER IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

CHAPTER V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE.

CHAPTER VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICE.

CHAPTER VII.—INSTRUCTION.

CHAPTERVIII.—ARCHÆOLOGY.

CHAPTER IX.—MISCELLANEOUS.

MAPS.

[Number of pages fixed as the maximum limit of the Report, Part I, 20-30 pages; Part II, 150 pages.]

REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

PUNJAB AND ITS DEPENDENCIES

FOR

1906-07.

PART I.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

(The "year" throughout this report is not invariably the financial year ending 31st March 1907. At the heading of each chapter, with the exception of chapter I, a reference is given to the departmental reports which contain details of the subjects dealt with. The "year" of the present report is for each such subject the year mentioned in the title of the departmental report so referred to. In general it may be said that the "year" in chapters I, IV, V, VII, VIII and IX means the financial year ending 31st March 1907, in chapter II it is the revenue year ending 30th September 1906, and in chapters III and VI it is the calendar year ending 31st December 1906.

The Administration Report for 1901-02 was a decennial report, and as such contained many sections of permanent interest to which reference may be necessary in order to understand the working of the Administration; under the orders of the Government of India these sections are not repeated each year, but a reference is given to them in their place in the several chapters of part II of this report.

Except where otherwise stated, the Punjab in this report refers to the Punjab as at present constituted.)

CHANGES IN THE ADMINISTRATION.

Personnel of the Administration.

1. Sir Denzil Ibbetson, K.C.S.I., assumed charge of the office of Lieutenant-Governor on the 6th March 1907, relieving Sir Charles Rivaz, who retired from the service.

RELATIONS WITH TRIBUTARY STATES AND FRONTIER AFFAIRS.

Political.

2. The most important event of the year was the death at sea of Nawab Muhammad Bahawal Khan of Baháwalpur from the effects of pneumonia, contracted on the journey back from Mecca. His Highness was 22 years of age and left a son Sadiq Muhammad Khan, a child of two years of age, who has been recognised as his successor. The States of Patiála, Jínd, Nábha and Máler Kotla were honoured by visits from His Excellency the Viceroy and His

Honour the Lieutenant-Governor. The minor Chief of Patiála, Maharaja Bhupendra Singh, is making satisfactory progress with his studies at the Aitchison College. The young Raja of Farídkot aged 11 has also joined the Aitchison College, and the Council appointed to manage the State has worked satisfactorily. With the exception of the death of the Nawab of Baháwalpur, the year has been devoid of any events of special interest. The administration has proceeded smoothly except in the case of the State of Suket, where there has been friction between the Raja and his officials. The harvests have been good, and but for the ravages of plague the people have been prosperous and contented. The Dera Ghází Khan frontier has maintained a condition of complete tranquility.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

Land revenue.

3. The autumn crop of 1905 was an extraordinarily poor one, being very much worse than that of the famine year of 1901. On the Chenab Colony the cotton crop was a complete ilure, and in the Delhi division, which depends mainly on the autumn harvest, large suspensions had to be given. Fortunately, this abnormally bad crop was followed by the finest spring harvest on record, and had been preceded by one almost as good. In consequence, the combined result of two harvests, equally abnormal in opposite extremes, was an almost normal outturn of 101 per cent. Of the total fixed demand 89 per cent. was collected, but on the other hand the demand on account of fluctuating land revenue rose by nearly 5 lakhs, and this in spite of the fact that nearly 30 lakhs of rupees were remitted on canal-irrigated lands because of the failure of the cotton crop. Of the revenue suspended at the time of the autumn failure, an unusual amount was collected in the spring, and in the Hissar district alone it was found possible to collect 250 per cent. of the normal demand. The balances outstanding have risen from 8·6 to 22·37 lakhs, but the recoverable balance, not under suspension, has fallen considerably. The receipts classified as "miscellaneous land revenue" have fallen, and will continue to do so for some time to come as the colonies become more developed and it is no longer necessary to sell town sites.

urveys.

4. Survey work was carried on in Multán, Muzaffargarh and Dera Ghází Khan, and the irrigated areas of the two former districts were nearly completed. The traverses required for the compilation of all the boundaries on the 6 rivers of the Punjab were finished, and 4,600 miles were also traversed in Jhang, Lyallpur, Montgomery, Shahpur and the Baháwalpur State. The most important work accomplished was the final determination of the boundaries on the Sutlej between the Baháwalpur State and the Montgomery and Multán districts respectively, and this should put an end to all possibility of friction in the future. Small transfers of estates were effected between various districts, and the Government waste on the Sakesar hill was divided between Shahpur, Attock and Miánwáli. Considerable progress was made with the Himalayan maps, and of the 430 large maps of the riverain tract 200 have now been completed.

Settlements.

5. The settlement work of the year has been devoid of any unusual features. The settlement of Jhang has been completed, the work of re-assessment in Sangarh has been concluded, and the new assessments have been sanctioned in Ráwalpindi and parts of Miánwáli and Háfizabad. Progress has been

made in the settlements of Karnál, Rohtak, and Delhi, but experience has not borne out the anticipations of Government that settlement operations can ordinarily be finished in four years. The case regarding the enhancement of occupiers' rates on the Bari Doab Canal was disposed of, and revised rates were notified which were expected to yield an increase of Rs. 5,62,292 per annum.

Land records.

6. Two administrative changes of great importance have been carried out in the separation of the Department of Land Records from that of Agriculture, and the abolition of the patwar cess. The combined charge had in view of the growing importance of agricultural and veterinary questions become too large for a single officer, and the separation will certainly work in the direction of efficiency. The abolition of the patwar cess was an appreciable relief to the agricultural community and will necessitate only a few small modifications in the centralised scheme of accounts recently introduced. Apart from these two important changes nothing happened worthy of note. The amount of work disposed of was larger than last year and appears to be still growing.

Colonies.

7. The colonies in which operations were carried on were the same as last year. On the Chenab the area available has been practically exhausted until some further extensions of the canal are completed and the remainder of the Crown waste is commanded. The chief work which now remains to be done is the opening up of the area already colonised, the improvement of communications, the increase of post offices, and the building of schools. On the 14th May 1906 the Jech Doab Railway opened for traffic. The Shahdara-Sángla line was partly opened at the end of the year and has since been completed. The post office department has made steady progress, and there are now 211 post offices in this colony which transacted business in money orders alone worth 16 lakhs of rupees. In the Chunián Colony practically all the land available has been allotted and in Jhang nearly one-half still remains. On the Jhelum Colony steady progress has been made. There are still nominally about one lakh of acres to be allotted, but the land is of poor quality, and, unless the experiments in temporary cultivation prove more satisfactory in future years, this area will have to be abandoned. All grantees on horse-breeding conditions have now received land, which will amply repay them for the up-keep of a mare, and a satis factory system of replacing wastage by means of fresh stock purchased with Government advances has been de vised. It will probably be necessary to find land for the disappointed grantees, for whom good enough land was not available, on the extensions to be made in the Chenab Colony. The most satisfactory features of the year in both the great colonies are the definite and steady progress in horse-breeding on the Jhelum, and in mule-breeding on the Chenab, and the marked improvement of the Janglis or aboriginal nomads of the old waste. These men are gradually settling down to agriculture and have been given land both for temporary and permanent cultivation.

Wards estates.

8. A large estate of the value of over 44 lakhs of rupees was taken under management, although the status of the family was commercial rather than agricultural. This action was necessitated by the size and complexity of the property, the long minority before the heir, and the quarrels of the family. Progress was made in paying off the debts of other estates.

LAND ALIENATION ACT.

Land Alienation Act.

9. For the first time since the passing of the Act a part of the province has been exposed to famine conditions, and it is satisfactory to note that the contraction of credit which resulted was not of such a nature as unduly to embarrass the cultivator, though it apparently led to an increase in the amounts advanced by Government. The statutory agriculturist, who was often in the favourable position of being a money-lender by birth and occupation and an agriculturist in virtue of having owned land for some generations, was abolished by legislation.

PROTECTION.

Legislation.

10. A list is given in the body of the report of the Acts passed during the year. Of these the most important was that amending the Punjab Land Alienation Act, and abolishing the statutory agriculturist.

Police.

11. The criminal statistics for the year reflect to a considerable extent the economic conditions prevailing in the province during the period. The year 1906, following on a period of scarcity and high prices, combined with a very severe epidemic of plague, opened under very unfavourable conditions, and it was not until timely rains had altered the agricultural outlook and had lowered prices that the criminal record displayed a change for the better. The increase in offences against property during the earlier part of the year was counterbalanced by improved conditions later, and the figures as a whole exhibit only a very slight increase over those of 1905. In the north and south-west of the province, which were only very slightly affected by agricultural stress or plague, theft and kindred offences have decreased. In the case of other forms of crime it is satisfactory to notice that in the most serious class of offences against the person a substantial decrease occurred. The number of cases of murder and culpable homicide fell, and dakaities which reached a very high level in 1900 have now decreased to less than one third of that number. As to the working of the Police, statistics afford sufficient indications that the improvement noticed in previous reports has been well maintained, the percentages being much the same as in the two preceding years except in magistrates' "true cases", where the percentage of convictions shows a marked increase. Viewed from the standpoint of improved morale and a generally higher standard of duty, there is evidence of gradual progress, and it is clear that, with the improved pay and prospects introduced by the reorganization scheme, a better and more willing spirit animates all ranks, while discipline has been well maintained. The work of carrying out the sanctioned changes in the constitution of the force continues, and during the year a third range was formed, a Deputy Inspector-General with an office staff appointed, and two grades of constables were created on Rs. 10 and Rs. 11 per mensem. Six Deputy Superintendents were added to the cadre and the Sub-Inspectors were regraded on the new scale.

Criminal justice.

12. There was an enormous increase in the number of offences reported, but if the high percentages of failure of these charges for want of prosecution, and the very low ratio of convictions, be taken into consideration, it is clear that, putting aside a temporary rise in the Delhi division at the beginning of

the year on account of scarcity, the increase shown is out of all proportion to the state of crime and is due to the litigious nature of the Punjab peasant, and to the inveterate habit of using the cheaper agency of the criminal courts in what are really civil disputes. The latter applies more especially in matrimonial cases, which are still increasing. It would appear that in certain districts of the province this is not merely due to heavy female mortality from plague, and the enhanced value of the women who survive, but that deeper causes are at work, and that a gradual change in social conditions is resulting in the growing independence of women from parental control in their marital relations.

Prisons.

13. There was a considerable decrease in the number of prisoners admitted into the jails, and, though there has been a slight increase in the daily average population, this is explained by the large number of transfers from other provinces, and also, to some extent, by the temporary suspension of the transportation of term convicts. First offenders sentenced to short periods of imprisonment of six months or less still represent more than one-half of the total number admitted, and the large influx of this class of prisoners renders their effective segregation very difficult. Nine escapes occurred during the year as against only one last year. Six of these, however, were from extra-mural gangs, and in only one was there direct suspicion of connivance on the part of the warder in charge. Disclipine was well maintained, and corporal punishments have been reduced to a very low figure. The health of the prisoners was excellent, and the death-rate fell below even the extremely low figure previously recorded, and this in a year when the total number and the daily average of the sick increased appreciably. Six cases of plague occurred with two deaths, but the disease was stamped out at once and did not spread.

Civil justice.

14. The decline in the volume of civil litigation which has been a prominent feature of the reports of several years past has experienced a marked check. The number of suits instituted represents an increase of 7 per cent. over the figures for 1905, and, although three districts, in which special local conditions stimulated litigation, account for a third of the increase, the balance is fairly well distributed over the province. It is clear that the check furnished by the extension of the limitation period in Act I of 1904 is disappearing, and the first batch of suits held up in consequence of the passing of that Act has now been filed. In the course of the next two or three years it will be possible to gauge with greater accuracy what the precise effect of the Act has been on litigation. The figures furnish marked indications of improvement in the status and well-being of the agriculturist, for, while suits for redemption of mortgage increased, notices and suits for sale and of foreclosure show a substantial decrease. The state of business in the Chief Court exhibits a very marked improvement over preceding years owing to the temporary strengthening of the Court by four additional Judges, and there is reason to hope that the continuance of one of these Judges for a further period of six months will place the file of the Court on a satisfactory basis. There is, however, great congestion in the Divisional Courts.

Registration.

15. There was a very marked increase in the number of documents compulsorily presented for registration. Although special circumstances helped locally to bring this about, the general cause appears to have been the comparative immunity from plague during the first half of the year and the consequent completion of transfers held in abeyance. A new system for the remuneration of Sub-Registrars by making them public servants with a fixed salary and a percentage of the fees has been introduced, and promises to be successful.

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT.

District boards and municipalities.

16. There is nothing to note in the working of district boards during the year. The Gurgaon district board has been reconstituted as a wholly nominated body. In municipalities the chief feature of interest is the first year's working of new Account Code and the system of refunds of octroi without enquiry introduced from the Upper Provinces. The diversity of the figures makes it difficult to form any safe opinion regarding the financial effects of the new system, but there is no doubt that there has been a general improvement in the working of the staff and in the methods of collection. The percentage of the cost to the income resulting from this tax is so high in many of the smaller municipalities as to show that it is unsuited to them, and that a substitute will have to be found.

AGRICULTURE, WEATHER AND CROPS.

Operations of the Department of Agriculture.

17. The year has been chiefly spent in the general organization of the Agricultural Department formed last year. An agricultural chemist and an expert in botany have been appointed. The subordinate staff is not yet up to full strength, and several stipendiary candidates are receiving education in Cawnpore. The conditions of the year were unfavourable to experiments, but there was a considerable advance in the amount of selected grain distributed. The chief problem at present exercising the Director is the selection of a suitable thresher and winnower and a good reaping machine. These are urgently required on account of the terrible scarcity of labour due to the ravages of plague. A light reaping machine, which is extremely popular, has been introduced, and it is intended to import a large number for private purchasers next year. A satisfactory thresher and winnower has yet to be discovered.

The Veterinary Department.

18. A marked improvement is reported in the educational qualifications of students admitted to the Veterinary College, and the graduates, who qualified, succeeded at once in obtaining employment. The year was an unhealthy one among cattle, and epidemics of rinderpest, hemorrhagic septicæmia and blackquarter occurred in several districts. A vigorous campaign of preventive inoculation was carried on and was attended by a considerable measure of success, the number of animals treated by the department increasing by 40 per cent.

Agricultural pests.

19. Measures were taken to prevent a recurrence of the damage done in the previous year to the cotton crop by the boll-worm. Partly owing to these precautions and partly to a satisfactory fall of rain in September, the ravages of the pest were not serious. At the beginning of the cold

weather various districts were threatened with a serious visitation of locusts. Fortunately, the heavy winter rains and low temperatures retarded the hatching of the young insects, and little damage was done.

Loans to agriculturists and co-operative credit societies.

20. The conditions of scarcity prevailing in the Delhi division during part of the year necessitated the giving of large advances under the Agriculturists' Loans Act, and throughout the province the amount distributed was more than 50 per cent. higher than in the previous abnormal year, which followed the Kángra earthquake. At the same time great progress was made with the formation of co-operative credit societies, the second means of financing the agriculturist and supplementing the village money-lender. There can be no doubt that the bulk of these societies have a real life, and the type now selected as the best and that, on which more than half of them are working, appears to be suited to the needs of the province.

Prices.

21. Prices generally ruled easier, but were still somewhat high. In the northernmost districts only did wheat reach the normal level. A fall in sugar rates indicates a return to the usual conditions of cultivation and a further recovery from the injury inflicted on cane by the frost of 1905. The price of millet fell almost everywhere owing to extensive sowings; that of cotton was easier, and reflected the improvement in the crop due to its partial immunity from boll-worm attacks.

Weather and crops.

22. The season and crop report deals with the autumn harvest of 1906 and the spring harvest of 1907. The monsoon current reached the eastern part of the province in the third week of June, but except in Simla and the hill districts the fall was insufficient until September. Ample rain then fell. The harvest was in most respects above the normal. The outturn of millet was good. Rice and sugarcane both did well, and cotton very much better than in the previous year. The excellent September rains gave promise of an excellent spring crop, which was not fulfilled, as the excessive winter rains did considerable damage, and the result was slightly below the normal.

FORESTS.

Management.

23. Little damage was caused by fire, and of this the favourable season is the cause, rather than improved protective arrangements. An increase in forest offences is due mainly to the extension of cultivation that accompanies the increasing prosperity of the country. The protection of forests from damage by agricultural animals is becoming an extremely difficult matter. Flocks of sheep and goats have largely increased, and it will be no simple matter to strike a fair balance between the immediate interests of the people on the one hand and those of forest conservancy on the other.

Exploitation and financial results.

24. The total timber outturn fell nominally by 52 per cent., but defective registration in Chamba is partly to blame. Increased importation of Australian and other woods for sleepers has affected the demand as has also the supersession of wood fuel by coal. As a natural result of the diminution in the outturn the income has fallen.

MINES AND QUARRIES.

Coal.

25. There was an increase in the outturn of coal, the greater part coming from the Dandot Colliery, which is worked by the North-Western Railway. The province is unable to supply more than a small fraction of the coal required, and has to depend on the Bengal fields.

MANUFACTURES.

Factories.

26. Although the number of cotton-ginning factories increased slightly, no less than forty-eight remained closed, the reason being the scarcity of raw material due to the failure of the crop in two successive years. The health of the operatives was good and the sanitary conditions satisfactory. The Factories Labour Committee, which visited Delhi as well as the other large manufacturing centres in India, has submitted its report, and has made definite suggestions for improvements in inspections and for the bettering of the lot and surroundings of the mill hands. In a monograph on carpet-weaving will be found an interesting description of this industry as it exists in the Punjab.

TRADE.

Trade with other provinces and States in India.

27. The figures reflect the agricultural condition of the year, the excellent crops of 1906 being followed by record exports, the greater portions of which were as usual 'grain and pulse.' There is an increase of 29 lakhs in the value of the imports, and this in spite of the slackening of the abnormal imports of sugar, which fell by 75 lakhs as compared with the previous year. Distributed as it is over piece-goods, apparel, gunny bags and kerosine oil, this great increase is a clear proof of improved purchasing power and is a most healthy sign of the general prosperity of the people.

Trans-frontier trade.

28. There is a general increase of 10 per cent. in the volume of trans-frontier trade as compared with three years ago. The registration system is being overhauled, and until it is in a more satisfactory condition an examination of the detailed heads does not supply any very satisfactory information. Trade with Kashmir is growing steadily.

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.

General.

29. During the first half of the year great activity was shown in the promotion of companies. It is to be hoped that this development is not premature, and that the speculative nature of some of these concerns, the system of financing one company or more with the funds of another, and the maintenance of inadequate reserves, will not lead to disaster and to the checking of the movement while still in its infancy.

PUBLIC WORKS.

General.

30. The most important work in progress was the new office for the Accountant-General in Lahore. The Public Works Secretariat offices were built up to roof level. The District Jail at Campbellpur was completed, and several new police stations were put in hand. A five year programme for the construction of new feeder roads to railways was drawn up, but the mainte-

nance of all roads is now absorbing a much larger share of the finances available. Wages have risen 30 to 40 per cent., and this naturally reduces the sum which can be devoted to construction.

RAILWAYS.

Construction and traffic.

31. Two hundred and eight miles of railway were opened during the year. Of these one-half were on the North-Western Railway proper, and the remainder were on small lines which are worked by the same administration on the contract system. The Simla-Kalka Railway was made over to the North-Western Railway on the 1st January 1907. Owing to innumerable landslips caused by the incessant rain in September the line was washed away and subsided in many places, and traffic was suspended for 36 days. The returns of the year were most satisfactory, there being an increase of 3½ millions in the number of passengers carried and also a large advance in the goods traffic.

IRRIGATION.

General progress.

32. Work was in progress on the new projects to be known as the Upper Jhelum and the Upper Chenab Canals, and sixty-five lakhs were expended. The heavy rainfall at the end of August retarded the work, and the continuous rain during the cold weather, and the severe outbreak of plague demoralised the labour supply generally. The construction of these great works is now a very different matter to what it was ten or even six years ago, when the existing canals which take off these same rivers were being built. Labour, which in those days was plentiful and cheap, is now not only infinitely more costly, but at times almost unprocurable. The working of the canals in operation was materially assisted by good rainfall and the net profit was nearly 10 per cent. Owing to ample floods the inundation canals worked splendidly.

REVENUE AND FINANCE.

Revenue and expenditure of the Punjab.

33. The revenue raised in the province was 50 lakhs more than last year. The marked increase under land revenue is due to the magnificent spring harvest of 1906 and the fact that in the financial year as opposed to the revenue year the figures show the autumn harvest following, and not that preceding, the spring harvest included in the accounts. Receipts under opium and excise continue to show a considerable increase. In charas, and imported and coloured spirits, the rise is in part to be accounted for by enhancements of duty, but under opium and country spirit it represents a real increase in consumption, or rather in consumption of articles licitly manufactured. The experiment of combating illicit distillation by selling liquor at a cheaper rate in the four Sikh districts, where it is specially prevalent, has been to show that the evil is more widespread than was imagined, and it is believed that the apparent growth in consumption merely represents the replacement of so much illicit liquor by that which has paid duty. In expenditure the main items in the increase of over 24 lakhs of rupees are those shown under Police, Public Works and Irrigation.

Local funds and municipal revenues.

34. The special annual grants which are now given to the various districts out of the sum contributed from imperial revenues, and the policy of regulating the liability of district boards for local plague expenditure with reference to their financial position, have materially improved the finances of those bodies. The year has been a prosperous one, the income throughout the province showing a marked increase more especially under the heads 'Provincial Rates,' 'Civil Works,' and 'Contributions.' 'Provincial Rates' represent the result of good harvests followed by the payment of current demands and of suspended land revenue, while contributions represent the annual grant. The expenditure grew proportionately, the surplus being devoted to civil works, education, and medical relief. The municipal income rose by over 4 lakhs of rupees, and mainly on account of enhanced grants and contributions for general and special purposes. The new system of octroi has necessitated a large increase in the cost of establishment.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births and deaths.

35. The birth-rate shows a small decrease, which is probably to be attributed to the scarcity and the high prices of food-grains in certain districts in the preceding autumn. This hypothesis is supported by the fact that the area in which these conditions prevailed is that in which the defect is most noticeable. The death-rate shows a substantial decrease of 10 per cent., which is due entirely to the marked lull in plague mortality. For the first time since 1901 the birth-rate exceeds the death-rate, and this province, which for four years registered the highest death-rate in India, shows a decline to the third place.

Plague.

36. If only for a time, the virulence of the plague epidemic abated, and the number of deaths recorded was less than one-third of that of the previous year. The climatic conditions of the autumn of 1905 were adverse to the recrudescence and spread of the disease, and high hopes were entertained that the climax had been passed. Unfortunately since the close of the year those hopes have been completely falsified, and there has been a visitation of unparalleled severity. Rat destruction has been carried out on a large scale, and appears to have been, to a modified extent, successful. It is a measure which is fairly well accepted and it may be hoped that as time goes on the people may learn to carry it out themselves. Evacuation, desiccation, and inoculation form the other main palliatives, but lack of thoroughness in carrying them out seriously affects the results.

Vaccination.

37. A marked fall in the number of vaccinations performed is chiefly due to the prevalence of malaria in the early part of the season. Though the percentage of success in primary vaccinations has improved, the results in revaccination were not quite so good.

SANITATION.

General progress.

38. Various drainage schemes in large cities were completed, and others were taken in hand. The Ludhiána water-works, to the cost of which the public of that town have contributed most generously, were commenced. It is disappointing to find that in villages no interest is yet taken in sanitation, and that the rewards offered for improvements could not be distributed.

MEDICAL RELIEF.

Hospitals and dispensaries.

39. There was an increase in the number of hospitals and dispensaries, and both out-patients and in-patients attended in larger numbers than ever before, malaria being the complaint for which most of the former were treated. The return of operations was even higher than in the preceding record year. The Pasteur Institute at Kasauli was attended by 50 per cent. more patients, and the popularity of this institution is becoming more widespread as the results of the work become better known. More especially is this the case among the native population, the number of patients being more than double what it was two years ago,—an increase which may be expected to continue indefinitely in the future.

EDUCATION.

General progress.

40. The report on education is a quinquennial one, and the statistics and progress made have been reviewed in the body of the report as compared with the state of things five years ago. There has been a further increase in expenditure during the present year, the chief advance being again in primary education. A scheme of studies has been prepared for schools in rural districts as distinguished from urban schools, and these new rural schools will, it is hoped, provide a suitable education for the young agriculturist. Persian has been eliminated, instruction in native accounts has been introduced, and prominence is given to Geography, Object Lessons, and Mensuration. The pupils will be able to go direct from the rural Primary School to the Vernacular Secondary School with the privilege of there taking up Agriculture instead of Persian. The Arts Colleges show a larger number of pupils, and, though the results of the B. A. Examination are not very satisfactory, there was an improvement in the examination for the M. A. degree. The Law College shows a still further decline in the number of students, and it is only natural that, the legal profession being so overstocked and competition for a living so acute, fewer should take the trouble to qualify. The Medical College shows a decrease in numbers, but this is only nominal, as the teaching of the preliminary science subjects has been transferred to the Government College. The result of raising the preliminary educational test in the Medical Schools is still felt, but it is believed that many more men possessing the Entrance Examination qualification will soon seek admission. The number of students attending the North India Medical School for Christian Women at Ludhiána rose considerably, and the institution is attracting pupils from all parts of India, one having even come from the Malabar Coast. The Veterinary College, the Mayo School of Industrial Art, and the Railway Technical School are all increasing in popularity and efficiency. In female education the want of sufficient trained teachers still hampers progress; but the result of the year's working at St. Bede's and the Auckland House Training Colleges and the Normal School for women at Lahore has been eminently staisfactory, and the small beginning, which has been made in these institutions, may, it is hoped, lead to the training of teachers on a large scale, or rather to the supply of the necessary material for training.

PART II.

CHAPTER I.

PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

1. Physical Features of the Country, Area and Climate.

(See pages 1—12 of the report for the year 1901-02.)

2. Historical Summary.

(See pages 12—32 of the report for the year 1901-02.)

3. Form of Administration.

(See pages 32—35 of the report for the year 1901-02).

4. Character of Land Tenures and System of Survey and Settlements.

(See pages 35—43 of the report for the year 1901-02 and the Punjab Settlement Manual.)

5. Civil Divisions of British Territory.

(See page 44 of the report for the year 1901-02.)

6. Details of the last Census—Tribes and Language.

(See pages 45—53 of the report for the year 1901-02.)

7. Changes in the Administration.

Personnel.

1. Sir Denzil Ibbetson, K.C.S.I., assumed charge of the office of Lieutenant-Governor on the 6th of March 1907, relieving Sir Charles Rivaz, K.C.S.I., who retired from the service.

Area, population and revenue of the Punjab.

2. The area of the province according to the latest returns is 97,394 square miles, its population (census of 1891) 20,340,372 and the land revenue collections 272 lakhs of rupees.

8. Relations with Tributary States and Frontier Affairs.

Political supervision.

3. The arrangements for the purposes of supervision of the Native States in the Punjab remain as they were at the time of the last report, Baháwalpur being included with the Phulkián States in the charge of a Political Agent. The States, with the exception of Chamba, which is in the political charge of the Commissioner of Lahore, are arranged in four groups as follows :—I, the Phulkián States, comprising the States of Patiála, Jínd and Nábha, for which a separate Political Agent was appointed on the 16th January 1901, and in whose charge Baháwalpur is now included ; II, the States of Kapúrthala, Mandi, Máler Kotla, Farídkot and Suket in the political charge of the Commissioner of Jullundur ; III, the States of Sirmúr, Kalsia, Pataudi, Loháru and Dujána in the political charge of the Commissioner of Delhi ; and IV, the States of Biláspur, Bashahr, Nálagarh, Keonthal and numerous other small States in the Simla Hills, which are in the charge of the Superintendent of Hill States, Simla. Generally speaking, the administration in all the States has proceeded smoothly during the year under report. Plague has been prevalent throughout many of the States, but the Chiefs themselves have enjoyed good health, with the exception of His Highness the Nawáb of Baháwalpur, the principal Muhammadan Chief of the province, who died of pneumonia while returning from a pilgrimage to Mecca. The States of Patiála, Jínd, Nábha and Máler Kotla were honoured by visits from His Excellency the Viceroy and His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor. Six Chiefs, namely, the Rájas of Jínd, Nábha, Mandi and Suket, the Regent of Máler Kotla and the Sardár of Kalsia, came to Lahore in March to bid farewell to His Honour Sir Charles Rivaz and to welcome His Honour Sir Denzil Ibbetson, and four Chiefs of the Delhi division, namely, the Sardár of Kalsia, the Nawáb of Pataudi, the Nawáb of Loháru and the Nawáb of Dujána, went to Delhi to meet His Excellency the Viceroy.

Full information will be found in the report for 1901-02 as to the area, population, gross revenue and estimated Military forces, including Police, of each State and the following brief notices are inserted concerning special events of importance in the history of particular States during the year.

PATIALA.

Area, 5,412 square miles; population, 1,596,692; gross revenue, Rs. 65,57,930; army and police, 5,522; race of Chief, Sidhu Jat; age of Chief, 15.

Personal.

4. Mahárája Bhupindra Singh has enjoyed excellent health during the whole year, and has improved greatly in manners and bearing. Although he was absent from the Aitchison College from May till October 1906, he has made satisfactory progress in his studies, winning the mathematical prize for his class.

The result of the visit to Europe of Sir Ranbír Singh, K.C.S.I., the Mahárája's uncle, has been excellent. In the course of his six months' tour the Kanwar Sáhib visited England, Scotland, Ireland, France and Italy.

General.

5. There has been no change in the Council of Regency. The President, Sardár Gurmukh Singh, was honoured by a Companionship of the Order of the Star of India.

The settlement of the State is now nearly completed, and assessments have been announced in 11 out of 16 tahsíls. In spite of certain heavy expenses the finances remain in a very satisfactory condition and the statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the financial year shows a credit balance of Rs. 45,74,196. The expenditure on public works amounts to 13 lakhs of which 9 lakhs have been spent on original works. The foundation-stone of the water-works which are estimated to cost about 10 lakhs, was laid by His Excellency in December 1906. The State Imperial Service Troops continue to maintain their high state of efficiency, and are now a really capable body of irregular troops.

The year has been an unhealthy one, chiefly owing to the prevalence of malarial fever and plague. The latter increased greatly during the spring of 1907. Patiala city suffered to a less extent than did many of the other towns in the State, some of which were almost depopulated.

JIND.

Area, 1,259 square miles; population, 282,051; gross revenue, Rs. 12,49,000; army and police, 1,868; race of Chief, Sidhu Jat; age of Chief, 28.

General.

6. His Highness Rája Ranbír Singh has enjoyed good health. The year on the whole has been a prosperous one; the monsoon rains were ample and there was a good kharíf crop. A sum of 5 lakhs, the savings of the previous year, was invested in Government paper, and it is proposed to use it later for railway development. Arrangements are being completed for irrigation from the extra supply sanctioned by Government last year from the Western Jumna Canal, and it is hoped that water for this purpose will be available next year.

NABHA.

Area, 928 square miles; population, 297,949; gross revenue, Rs. 14,71,539; army and police, 1,562; race of Chief, Sidhu Jat; age of Chief, 63.

Personal.

7. His Highness Rája Colonel Sir Híra Singh, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., has been in fairly good health during the year, though for some time in the cold weather he suffered from bad attacks of asthma. He was present in Agra in January at the Chapter of the Indian Orders; and, though he was suffering from asthma at the time, he was fortunately able to pay his respects to, and receive a visit from, His Excellency the Viceroy.

The Tikka Sáhib of Nábha was appointed an Additional Member of the Viceroy's Council during this year, and spent most of the cold weather in Calcutta. This absence prevented him from taking such an active part in the affairs of the State as he usually does.

8. The year has been a fairly prosperous one, the autumn and spring crops both being good. Plague has been very prevalent, more so probably than the official returns show. **General.**

BAHAWALPUR.

Area, 15,000 square miles; population, 720,877; gross revenue, Rs. 26,00,000; army and police, 1,093; race of Chief, Daudputra; age of Chief, 2.

9. The State suffered a sad loss by the sudden death of His Highness Nawáb Muhammad Baháwal Khán, Vth, Abbási. The Nawáb left Baháwalpur for his pilgrimage to Mecca in November 1906. He was then, apparently, in good health. Shortly after arriving at Jeddah he was taken ill with diarrhœa and fever, and though he was able to perform all the ceremonies of pilgrimage, his illness grew more serious, and when he reached Aden the Medical Officer, Colonel Monk, I.M.S., pronounced him to be suffering from pneumonia. Immediately his ship left Aden his vitality sank rapidly, and he died at sea on the 15th of February 1907. Nawáb Muhammad Baháwal Khán left a son, Sádiq Muhammad Khán, a child of two years old, who has been acknowledged as his successor. The late Nawáb's half brother, Háji Khán, has just entered the Chiefs' College at Lahore. **Personal.**

10 Arrangements for the administration of the State during the minority of the present Chief are now under the consideration of the Government of India. The finances are in a satisfactory condition, and when the treasury was examined by the Political Agent after the death of the late Nawáb the State was found to have a balance of Rs. 28,61,626. Of this sum ten lakhs are invested in Government paper and five lakhs are in fixed deposit with the Bank of Bengal. The greater part of the fixed boundary between Baháwalpur and the adjoining British districts has been laid down. The demarcation should obviate the constant disputes that used to arise every time the river changed its course, and will, it is trusted, assure peace on the border. Sufficient rain fell both in the hot weather and in the cold, and both harvests were good. **General.**

KAPURTHALA.

Area, 630 square miles; population, 314,351; gross revenue, Rs. 20,00,000; army and police, 1,106; race of Chief, Ahlúwália Sikh; age of Chief, 33.

11. The Raja was absent in Europe for five months between May and September 1906. During his absence the business of the State was conducted, as usual, by the Administrative Council. The health of the Rája has been good. **Personal.**

MANDI.

Area, 12,000 square miles; population, 1,74,045; gross revenue, Rs. 4,30,000; army and police, 172; race of Chief, Rájpút; age of Chief, 23; tribute Rs. 1,00,000.

12. The administration has been satisfactorily conducted, for which every credit is due to the Wazír, Pandit Jiwa Nand. **General.**

The Rája has been in good health and has attended to business regularly: He made two short pleasure excursions outside the limits of his territory in the year,—one to Kulu and one to Dharmsála.

Excessive rain is reported to have done very considerable damage to the roads and buildings, and the hill torrents and heavy hailstorms have seriously injured the cultivators' lands and crops. Prices ruled unusually high.

SIRMUR.

Area, 1,198 square miles ; population, 1,35,687 ; gross revenue, Rs. 6,00,000 ; army and police, 458 ; race of Chief, Rájpút ; age of Chief, 40.

General.

13. There has been no change in the administration of the State, which is conducted in the same efficient manner as hitherto. In December 1906 His Highness the Raja was invested with unrestricted power to pass sentence of death, as a personal mark of distinction. He was received by His Excellency at Simla in October 1906.

MALER KOTLA.

Area, 167 square miles ; population, 77,506 ; gross revenue, Rs. 5,47,127 ; army and police, 356 ; race of Chief, Sherwáni Afghán ; age of Chief, 48.

Personal.

14. The mental condition of Nawáb Ibráhim Ali Khán remains unchanged. The Regent has been in good health, and has given steady and interested attention to the administration of the State. In May 1906 he paid a short visit to Simla where he was granted interviews with His Excellency the Viceroy and with His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor.

Plague prevailed for some months; otherwise the health of the people was good. The finances are in satisfactory order.

FARIDKOT.

Area, 642 square miles ; population, 124,912 ; gross revenue, Rs. 3,36,250 ; army and police, 325 ; race of Chief, Barar Ját ; age of Chief, 11.

General.

15. The young Rája Brij Indar Singh is in good health, and since November 1906 has been a pupil at the Aitchison College. He is an intelligent boy, and the first report of progress received recently from the College gives promise of intellectual brightness and rapid advancement. His younger brother, the Kanwar, is with him in the College.

The State Council has worked very successfully under the Presidentship of Sardár Bahádur Risáldár Partáp Singh, Extra Assistant Commissioner. His colleagues, Munshi Abdul Ghafúr Khán and Sardár Naráin Singh, gave *him* loyal support and have worked well throughout.

SUKET.

Area, 420 square miles; population, 54,676 ; gross revenue, 1,27,971 ; army and police, 94 ; race of Chief, Chandarbansi Rájpút ; age of Chief, 42.

General.

16. The Rája has enjoyed fairly good health. The Ráni, who had suffered in health for some time past, died in December 1906. Tikka Bhím Sen has continued to reside at the Aitchison College and to attend the Government College at Lahore.

In May 1906 some of the officials of the State openly quarrelled with the Chief and fled to Mandi. Charges of fraud in respect of the treasury were brought against them by the Rája. To some extent the people became disaffected and the position of affairs in the State appeared to be serious. A full enquiry was held into the trouble by the Commissioner. There was, however, no

proof of any extensive mis-government in the State, and it appeared reasonable to hope that an adjustment of affairs could be effected without resorting to extreme measures.

KALSIA.

Area, 168 square miles; population, 67,181; gross revenue, Rs. 1,70,079; army and police, 119; race of Chief, Jat; age of Chief, 24.

17. The administration of the State in this the first year, during which the Ṣardar has exercised full powers, has been satisfactory. Khán Bahádur Munshi Ináyat Ullah, who managed the State during the minority, is still in service as a Counsellor. Plague broke out during the year and prevailed in many villages in the Bari and Chachrauli tahsíls. General.

PATAUDI.

Area, 52 square miles; population, 21,933; gross revenue, Rs. 85,577; army and police, 42; race of Chief Afghán; age of Chief, 47.

18. Mr. P. L. Chandu Lál was appointed Manager of the State in December 1906. General.

Nawábzáda Muhammad Ibráhím Ali Khán left the Aitchison College, Lahore, and joined the Imperial Cadet Corps at Dera Dún in July 1906 but the Government of India have since the close of the year permitted him to withdraw from the Corps. He was married to the daughter of the Nawáb of Lohášru, Sir Amír-ud-dín Ahmad Khán, K.C.I.E., on the 29th April 1907.

LOHARU.

Area, 222 square miles; population, 15,229; gross revenue, Rs. 66,000; army and police, 43; race of Chief, Mughal; age of Chief, 47.

19. An officer of the Punjab Commission was deputed with the Nawáb's concurrence to investigate the finances of the State and to suggest a method of readjustment. His report resulted in an application to the Government of India for sanction to the raising of a loan from the Punjab Court of Wards to enable the Nawáb to pay his creditors and re-establish the credit of his State. General.

BILASPUR.

Area, 448 square miles; population, 90,873; gross revenue, Rs. 1,90,000; army and police, 97; race of Chief, Hindu Rájpút; age of Chief 33; tribute, Rs. 8,000.

20. His Highness Rája Bije Chand is still in Benares. The debt has been reduced from over a lakh to Rs. 28,000 and will be cleared during the coming year. General.

BASHAHR.

Area, 3,820 square miles; population, 80,572; gross revenue, Rs. 95,000; army and police, 13; race of Chief, Hindu Rájpút; age of Chief, 69.

21. Rái Mangat Rám continues to manage the State satisfactorily. The Punjab Government allotted a grant of Rs. 20,000 per annum from the forest income for purposes of general improvement, and a portion of this will be expended on the erection of supply-houses, along the Hindustán-Tibet road. The people resent most measures connected with forest protection, and complaints were made in the course of the year in regard to the alleged restriction of grazing areas and the supply of timber. Certain concessions have been made and rules drawn up which will tend to allay further agitation. General.

OTHER SIMLA HILL STATES.

General.

22. The affairs of Ghund remained in an unsatisfactory condition. The Chief was at issue with his eldest son, Ranjit Singh. The revenue is in arrears and the tribute due to Keonthal has not been paid It has been found that the forests, the management of which was taken over by Government, have been so devastated that little or no income is likely to be realised from them for ten years. As it became evident that neither the Thákur nor his son could conduct the affairs of the State in a tolerable manner, the administration has been entrusted to a Manager, Munshi Gurdhián, who will administer both Khaneti and Ghund States. In Madhan the succession of Tika Ranbír Chand was confirmed. The disturbances in the State of Khaneti have been settled. The Manager, Gobind Rám, has been removed and a Kanúngo from Kángra, Munshi Gurdhián, who will also administer Ghund, has been appointed in his place. Arrangements have been made by which the Patiála State will construct a cart-road from Kálka to Badi in Nálagarh, and when this is done and the bridge constructed across the Sutlej at Dihar there will be through communication to Suket and Kángra. The Rája of Keonthal continues to pay the fixed instalments towards liquidation, but the State is still heavily in debt. The affairs of the Bághal State are now in good order and the debts will be paid off in the course of the current year. The settlement operations are progressing smoothly. The son of the Rána of Dhami, who was born in October 1905, died in October 1906. A son and heir to the Thákur of Ráwín was born in October 1906 and a second son to the Rána of Kuthár in December 1906.

FRONTIER AFFAIRS.

General.

23. There has been absolute peace on the Baluch frontier during the year, working of the Border Military police posts, which has been strengthened by the addition of seventeen mounted men, has again been most satisfactory. Nawáb Bahrám Khán has proved himself a worthy successor to his father, and his influence both among the Balúch tribes of Dera Gházi Khan and of Balúchistán is of immense value to the administration.

9. Condition of the people.

Wages.

24. The period dealt with by this report, in one section or another, covers the greater part of two years, and according as the subject is the administration of justice, a branch of finance, or revenue, a different portion or rather a year calculated from a different date is considered. If the period be taken as a whole the main features are the disastrous autumn harvest of the calendar year 1905, and the ravages of plague in the spring and summer of 1907. The bad harvest was more than counterbalanced by the finest crop on record harvested in the spring of 1906, but nothing can counterbalance the appalling losses from plague. Year by year the scarcity of labour makes itself felt more and more. Wages are steadily rising; and looked at from the narrow point of view of the daily labourer who survives, there has never been such prosperity. If we examine the rates of wages paid we find that in the spring and early summer of 1907, in the remote tracts, there was still little competition, and labourers could be hired for 2 to 3 annas per diem, in addition to food. This contrasts sharply with the Re. 1-8-0 and more per diem paid in Lahore at harvest time. In Montgomery wages rose at harvest time to Re. 1-4-0 per diem, double the ordinary rates. In Shahpur, where the plague was particularly virulent, reapers could make good a claim to $\frac{1}{2}$ the produce harvested instead of the normal share of 1-20th: and even then crops often remained uncut owing to the dearth of able-bodied men. In Ráwalpindi and Attock as the harvest proceeded the demands of labour rose from $\frac{1}{4}$th share of the crop to $\frac{1}{3}$rd and culminated in $\frac{1}{2}$, which had to be conceded.

CHAPTER II.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

[Detailed information on the subjects dealt with in this chapter will be found in the following publications:—

Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Punjab for the agricultural year 1st October 1905 to 30th September 1906.

General Report on the Operations of the Survey of India for the year ending 30th September 1906.

Annual Report on the Settlement Operations in the Punjab for the year ending 30th September 1906.

Report of the Operations of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Punjab, for the year ending 30th September 1906.

Annual Report of the working of the Punjab Alienation of Land Act XIII of 1900 for the year ending 30th September 1906.

Annual Reports for the Chenab, Jhelum and Chuniân Colonies for the year ending 30th September 1906.

Report on the Administration of Estates under the Court of Wards in the Punjab for the year ending 30th September 1906.]

10. Realization of the Land Revenue.

General conditions in 1905-06.

25. The autumn crop of 1905 was an extraordinarily poor one, the failed area being equal to 41 per cent. of the sown area, a result much inferior even to that of the famine year of 1901. The cotton crop suffered severely in the Lahore and Multán divisions and was a complete failure in the Chenab Colony. Fortunately the following spring harvest of 1906 was magnificent, the area sown and cropped being both the largest on record; and the yield 129 per cent. of the normal. The combined result of two harvests, equally abnormal in opposite extremes, was an almost normal outturn of 101·3 per cent. for the year.

Fixed land revenue.

26. The fixed land revenue demand was Rs. 2,05,86,026 as compared with Rs. 2,07,54,362 for the previous year. The difference of Rs. 1,68,336 was due to a total increase of Rs. 1,21,302 and a total decrease of Rs. 2,89,638, the two largest items of increase being Rs. 26,587, following the re-assessment of the Attock tahsíl and Rs. 21,346 in Lahore due to the resumption of revenue grants, gain by alluvion, and the assessment of waste land brought under cultivation. The decrease was almost entirely due to the introduction of fluctuating assessments in a portion of the Gujránwála district. Of the total demand 89·1 per cent. was collected, the low percentage being due to the failure of the autumn crop. Collections on account of previous years amounted to 2·6 lakhs.

Suspensions and remissions.

27. Suspensions during the year amounted to 22·78 lakhs compared with 4·5 lakhs last year. Of this sum 19·71 lakhs were suspended in the Delhi division, chiefly on account of the autumn failure. The greater part of the amount suspended in Lahore on account of the cotton failure in the autumn was collected in the following spring harvest. The total amount of suspended revenue collected was 5·68 lakhs. Of this over a third, or 2 lakhs, were realised in the Hissar district, where the spring harvest was so abnormaly good as to allow of the collection of 250 per cent. of the normal demand. Of the sums under suspension 4·6 lakhs were remitted, a figure made up almost entirely of sums suspended for more than three years. The failure of

the cotton crop of 1905 necessitated remissions of canal rates and land revenue (mostly fluctuating) to the extent of over 30 lakhs. The balances now outstanding have risen from 8·58 to 22·37 lakhs. The recoverable balance not under suspension has fallen considerably.

Fluctuating land revenue.

28. The extension of the fluctuating system of assessments combined with the excellent spring harvest increased the total demand of fluctuating land revenue, permanently excluded from the rent roll, from 40·36 lakhs to 45·07 lakhs, the principal increases being 1·86 lakhs in Multán, 1·38 lakhs in Montgomery and ·98 lakhs in Jhang. In Multán and Montgomery this result is due to an excellent spring crop, in Jhang it is due partly to the same cause and partly to revision of assessment. The only district which shews a considerable decrease in collections is Shahpur, where there are large arrears mostly in the colony villages. Collections under the head "fluctuating assessment of canal-irrigated lands" for the year rose from Rs. 20, 68,935 to Rs. 28,24,738 in spite of the failure of the cotton crop of 1905 and the remission of nearly 30 lakhs on this account in the attumn. The popularity of the fluctuating system is not yet established. In Rohtak, where it has been introduced in 12 villages, it is not appreciated. This is also the case in Ferozepore Elsewhere the people are gradually learning, it is believed, that the advantages more than counterbalance the defects.

Miscellaneous land revenue.

29. The total collections for the year of miscellaneous land revenue amount to Rs. 12,59,207, or a decrease of nearly 1 lakh as compared with last year. As usual, the colony districts contribute the great bulk of the total, but receipts under this head are naturally declining. Almost all the collections on account of the sale of town sites were in the Jhelum and Jhang Colonies and Attock. Receipts from "tirni"* have declined and must continue to do so.

Collection of land revenue.

30. Coercive processes for collection of land revenue have continued to show a satisfactory decrease. There was, however, an increase in three districts, and the fact that in Multán the uncertainty of the demand on account of fluctuating assessments has led to the issue of a large number of warrants is a development of the question of fluctuating assessments which is receiving attention. There were only 6 cases of imprisonment for non-payment, and on the whole the amount finally assessed was easily collected.

11. Survey.

Survey of India Party No. 18.

31. A supplementary survey on the 2-inch scale was carried out by No. 18 party in the Multán, Muzaffargarh and Dera Gházi Khan districts. A total area of 3,047 square miles were surveyed. This nearly completes the whole of the irrigated areas of the Multán and Muzaffargarh districts, including such portions of Dera Gházi Khan and the Baháwalpur State as fall in the same sheets. An area of 4,600 square miles in Jhang, Lyallpur, Montgomery, Shahpur and the Baháwalpur State was traversed in addition to the completion of the traverses required for the compilation of all the boundaries on the 6 rivers of the Punjab and North-West Frontier Province. This work fell in 12 districts and States and included 729 linear miles of traverse. Considerable progress has been made with the Himalayan maps, and of the 430 large maps of the riverain tract 200 have been completed.

Boundary demarcation.

32. The boundaries on the Sutlej between the Baháwalpur State and the Montgomery and Multán districts, respectively, have been finally determined. Small transfers of estates were effected between (*i*) the Montgomery and Lyallpur districts, (*ii*) the Lahore and Ferozepore districts, (*iii*) the Attock and Peshávar districts, and (*iv*) the Hissar district and the Bikáner State, and the Sakesar *Rakh*† was divided between the three districts of Shahpur, Attock and Miánwáli.

---

* *Tirni*—Dues for grazing in Government waste.

† *Rakh*—Government waste.

12. Settlements.

33. The Jhang settlement, which has proved a specially arduous one, has been completed. The new assessments have been sanctioned in Ráwalpindi and the work is almost finished in that district. The total assessment sanctioned is Rs. 9,94,052 against Rs. 9,61,500 proposed by the Settlement Officer. New assessments have also been sanctioned in parts of Miánwáli, and Háfizabad in the Gujránwála district. It is now anticipated that the Gurgaon settlement, which it was hoped would be completed in four years, will certainly last five, a result largely due to a change in the Settlement Officers necessitated by illness. Steady progress has been made in Karnál, Rohtak, Delhi and Miánwáli, but experience is shewing that the anticipation that operations can ordinarily be completed in four years is too sanguine. The case regarding enhancement of occupiers' rates on the Bari Doab Canal has been disposed of during the year, and revised rates have been notified, which are expected to yield an increase of Rs. 5,62,292 per annum.

13. Land Records.

34. The year was marked by two administrative changes of importance, the separation of the Department of Land Records from that of Agriculture and the abolition of the patwár cess. The separation of the two departments is doubtless a step of considerable moment. The combined charge had, in view of the growing importance of agricultural and veterinary questions, become too large for a single officer, and the separation will certainly work in the direction of efficiency. The abolition of the patwár cess constitutes an appreciable relief to the agricultural community, and will, it is anticipated, do little towards dislocating the efficiency of a system which had been in work for some years. For the income formerly realised from the patwár cess, the Government of India have sanctioned a compensatory recurring assignment of Rs. 15,64,000 per annum, a sum which represented the estimated income from the fund as shown in the budget for 1906-07. Any growth in expenditure is to be met from the growth of provincial revenues.

Mutation of title.

35. The number of mutation and partition cases decided is greater than last year, but the pending file is also larger. The question whether changes should be made in the existing system of effecting mutations in the revenue records with the object both of improving their value as records of title, and of saving the landowners of the province from the inconveniences attendant on the present concurrent requirements of the registration and revenue officers, is under consideration.

14. Waste lands and Government Estates.

Chenab Colony.

36. On the Chenab Colony 1,829,880 acres have now been allotted, leaving a balance of 97,515. 13,083 acres were allotted during the year. 4,000 acres of Government waste will be available on the sanctioned Sultán Pakhara extension, the construction of which will commence early in the current year. 172,000 acres of Crown land will probably be commanded on three other extensions, not yet sanctioned, where irrigation is expected to be begun in 1909. A small area refused by persons to whom it was offered as a compensatory grant was given out on temporary cultivation; 18,000 acres were bought by tenant grantees during the year; and occupancy rights were acquired over 344,000 acres. *Killabandi** was completed on the Dang Ali extension and in two old villages. 228 villages were remeasured, and records-of-rights were prepared for them, including the village sites. A census of the colony taken in September shewed a total population of 858,000, an increase in five years of only 67,000; the smallness of the growth is ascribed to the facts that Jhang grantees in many cases do not reside on their land, and that

Killabandi—Realignment of field boundaries so as to make them run parallel to the rectangular survey squares.

tenants originally employed for clearance have been dispensed with. The failure of the cotton crop and the poor outturn of sugarcane marred what would otherwise have been a successful year. The spring crop of wheat was excellent and high prices did much to compensate for the cotton disaster. The sown area rose from 1,647,000 to 1,818,000 acres permanently allotted, but 15 per cent. failed as compared with 3 per cent. in the previous year. Among the prominent features of progress, the establishment of a local Agricultural Association for the discussion of agricultural topics and the popularisation of scientific methods and machinery is very promising.

Mule-breeding continues to show the most satisfactory progress, and a considerable number of colonists who are not bound by mule-breeding conditions have taken to the business of their own accord on seeing how profitable it is. On the other hand, the practical cessation of private camel-breeding must be accepted as the inevitable result of the extension of canal irrigation and of railways. The deterioration of the quality of grantee camels in the Colony in spite of all that has been done to foster the system is very marked, and it must ultimately become a question whether mule-breeding will not have to be substituted for camel-breeding grants.

Jhelum Colony.

37. The Crown land remaining for allotment on the Jhelum colony is 98,969 acres. It is satisfactory to note that all grantees on horse-breeding conditions have now got land which will amply repay them for the cost of the upkeep of a mare. During the year out of 15 *chaks** to be allotted, 3 were considered too poor for any but Janglís. It appears from the report that all cavalry grantees and all the *Janglís*† have now been provided with suitable grants. Only 16 civil grantees out of 45 and 67 infantry grantees out of 211 accepted the land offered them, and even when they did the Colonisation Officer was unable to regard the allotments as satisfactory. Subject to the results of two or three years' temporary cultivation of the remaining Jhelum land, the Chenab extensions will have to be utilized in making good promises already made.

The system of *killabandi* has been completed over all the Crown land, and the preparation of the record-of-rights has been rapidly pushed on. Practically all the colonists to whom land was allotted up to October 1905 have now built their houses, and almost 8,000 new houses were erected in the year. The enforcement of the condition of residence, and the marked tendency of the colonists to settle down in the colony are matters for satisfaction.

Chunian Colony.

38. The total allotted area in the Chunian colony proper is now 74,638 acres. 4,213 acres were given out on temporary cultivation. 838 acres of Crown land and 17 proprietary villages were surveyed and demarcated. In 16 colony villages the records-of-rights were prepared, and in 12 old villages revised in connection with the introduction of the system of *killabandi*, which is being pushed on, though not without some difficulty. The colony shared the general cotton failure, but had a good spring harvest, and no balance of the Government demand remained uncollected.

Jhang Colony.

39. 7,482 acres out of 19,190 have been allotted during the year on the Jhang colony. Good prices have been realised for the sale of sites at Shah Jiwana and Jhang.

Other Government waste.

40. Owing to deficiencies in the soil and difficulties in irrigation it has been decided to abandon altogether the idea of starting plantations on the Jhelum Canal and to defer indefinitely the proposals to reserve an area for this purpose

* *Chak*—A new village formed in State-owned waste.

† *Jangli*—A landless nomad.

on the Khiki extension of the Chenab Canal. In place of these areas, it has now been decided to set aside a tract of 48,915 acres at Pir Mahal on the Rajana extension of the Chenab Canal and to form an irrigated plantation on 36,000 acres in the tract so set aside. Work in the Hoshiarpur district under the Punjab Land Preservation (Chos*) Act, 1900, is progressing satisfactorily. The heavy rainfall of 1906 while it aided afforestation of the hills has done considerable damage to lands below, though less than would have been the case but for the existence of protective plantations of *kharkána*† grass. The villagers in the plains are now fully alive to the advantages of planting this grass in the *Chos*, but there is still room for a good deal of improvement in the direction of concerted action. Difficulties arise when it becomes necessary to make plantations or embankments on the lands of one village for the protection of another, owing to the apprehension that they may result in the diversion of the *Cho* to the lands of the unaffected village.

15. Wards Estates.

Court of Wards.

41. The most important of the new estates which were brought during the year under the Court of Wards is that of the late Sardár Hardit Singh of Ráwalpindi, a commercial magnate, who left property valued at over 44 lakhs. The status of the family, which is commercial rather than agricultural, would ordinarily not have justified assumption of control, and were it not for the size and complexity of the estate, the long minority before the heirs, and the quarrels of the relatives, the Court would not have been justified in assuming management. Steady progress was made in paying off the debts of the estates of the wards, the liabilities being reduced by about 2½ lakhs in all.

The number of estates under management is 45, as against 43 in the preceding year. Five fresh properties were taken over, and three were released during the year of report.

16. Revenue and rent-paying classes.

Land Alienation Act.

42. A Bill for the amendment of the Land Alienation Act received the assent of the Governor-General in Council on the 13th April 1907. The main feature of the Bill is that the statutory agriculturist, who enjoyed the privileges of a member of an agricultural tribe in an estate in which he or his ancestors had owned land for a definite term, has ceased to exist. The position of the landlord who wishes to acquire the occupancy rights of his tenant has been still further safeguarded by making sanction to the alienation unnecessary. The result of this Act will be to stop evasions in which the agriculturist acted as a go-between in the acquisition of land on behalf of his fellow money-lender, and to put an end to a specially favored class, with peculiar facilities for aquiring land amounting in many cases almost to a monopoly. During the year a portion of the province has, for the first time since the passing of the Act, been exposed to famine conditions; and it is satisfactory to find that the new conditions have stood the test, and that the contraction of credit which resulted from them has not been of such a nature as unduly to embarrass the cultivator; though it has apparently led to an increase in the amounts advanced by Government. There has been a slight increase in the areas sold and mortgaged, but agricultural tribes have both bought more land than they have sold and have gained by redemption more than they have mortgaged. The price of land has remained practically unaltered.

Tenants and rents.

43. If the figures from two districts, Jullundur and Hoshiárpur, be omitted there has been no increase in the number of suits for enhancement of rent throughout the province. In these two districts, which now account for two-thirds of the provincial total, agricultural prosperity is apparently the cause of the increase. Owing to the ravages of plague, the supply of labor at harvest time and more

* *Cho*—A torrent bed.

† *Kharkána*—A tough fibrous grass.

especially at the bumper spring harvests of the last two years, and in the canal colonies has been most inadequate. The rate of wages has been very high, and so long as this state of things continues the tenant-at-will, so far from being in any danger of being rack rented, mu st be in a most favourable position.

Descent of Jagirs Act.

44. Satisfactory progress is being made with the Descent of Jagirs Act; and assignments of the annual value of 5 lakhs have now been voluntarily placed under the rule of primogeniture. The unwillingness still shown by many assigness to accept the new rule is due to reluctance to incur the odium of having consented to the change more than to a want of appreciation of the solid advantages to be gained thereby.

CHAPTER III.

PROTECTION.

[Detailed information and statistics on the subjects included in this chapter will be found in the following reports :—

Police.—Report on the Police Administration of the Punjab for the year 1906.

Report on the working of the Criminal Tribes Act for the year 1906.

Criminal Justice.—Report on the Administration of Criminal Justice in the Punjab and its Dependencies during the year 1906.

Prisons.—Report on the Administration of the Jails in the Punjab, 1906.

Civil Justice.—Report on the Administration of Civil Justice in the Punjab and its Dependencies during the year 1906.

Registration.—Note on the Registration Returns of the Punjab for the year 1906.

Municipal Administration.—Report on the working of municipalities in the Punjab during the year 1906-07.

Local Boards Administration.—Report on the working of the Local Boards in the Punjab during the year 1906-07.

And in the following tables of the Volume of Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India for 1905-06, Eleventh Issue, *viz.*, Police (Tables VII , Criminal Justice (Tables IV), Jails (Tables V), Civil Justice (Tables III), Registration (Tables IX) and Municipalities (Tables XVII).]

17. Legislating Authority.

(See pages 83 and 84 of the report for the year 1901-02.)

18. Course of Legislation.

45. During the year 1906-07 three meetings of the Punjab Legislative Council were held at Lahore on the following dates :— **Meetings of Punjab Council.**

25th October 1906.

21st February 1907.

28th February 1907.

46. The following Bills were passed :— **Bills passed.**

(*a*) The Bill to amend certain provisions of the Punjab Tenancy Act, 1887, on the 25th October 1906. After receiving the assent of the Governor-General on the 10th December 1906, it was published as Punjab Act I of 1906.

(*b*) The Bill to amend the Punjab District Boards Act, 1883, was passed on the day it was introduced in Council, *i e.*, on the 25th October 1906, and having received the assent of the Governor-General on the 14th December 1906 it was published as Punjab Act II of 1906.

(*c*) The Bill to regulate the use of Motor-Vehicles in the Punjab was passed at the meeting held on the 21st February 1907. It received the assent of the Governor-General on the 28th March 1907 and was published as Punjab Act I of 1907.

(*d*) The Bill amending the Punjab Alienation of Land Act was passed in Council on the 21st February 1907. It received the assent of the Governor-General on the 13th April 1907, and was published as Punjab Act II of 1907.

(*e*) The Bill to make better provision for the colonization and administration of Government lands in the Punjab was passed in Council at the meeting held on the 28th February 1907. It was submitted for the assent of the Governor-General, which was not accorded.

Members of Punjab Council.

47. The following changes took place amongst the Honourable Members during the period:—

The Hon'ble Sir Lewis Tupper, the Hon'ble Mián Muhammad Shah Din and the Hon'ble Sir D. P. Masson resigned their seats. Sardár Partáb Singh, Ahluwália, Thákur Mahan Chand and Malik Umar Hyát Khán, Tiwána, were appointed members on the 26th January 1906. Mr. E. D. Maclagan, C. S., was appointed a member on the 16th April 1906.

Acts.

48. The Acts which apply to the Punjab as well as to other parts of British India and which received the Governor-General's assent during the year 1906-07 were as follows:—

No. of Act.	Subject.	Extent.	Date of Governor-General's assent.
VII of 1906	An Act to amend the Excise Act, 1896 ...	British India	31st August 1906.
VIII of 1906	An Act to amend the Land Improvements Loans Act, 1883, and the Agriculturists' Loans Act, 1884.	Ditto	Ditto.
I of 1907 ...	An Act further to amend the Presidency Banks Act, 1876.	General	15th February 1907.
III of 1907...	The Provincial Insolvency Act, 1907... ...	Whole of British India, except the scheduled districts.	15th March 1907.
IV of 1907...	An Act to repeal and amend certain enactments relating to abolished rates and cesses.	Madras, Bombay, Bengal, Punjab, North-West Frontier Province, Central Provinces, Coorg, Ajmer and Marwára.	20th March 1907.

19. Police.

Condition of crime.

49. The criminal statistics for the year reflect to a considerable extent the economic conditions prevailing in the province during the period. The year 1906, following on a period of scarcity and high prices, combined with a very severe epidemic of plague, opened under very unfavourable conditions, and it was not until timely rains had altered the agricultural outlook and lowered prices that the criminal record of the year displayed a change for the better. In the central and south-east Punjab a marked tendency to a rise in crime was distinctly traceable during the earlier months of the year, and there was reason to anticipate that the abnormal scale of offences against property of the previous year would be more than maintained. The increase in this class of crime during the earlier part of the year was, however, counterbalanced to a considerable extent by improved conditions later, and the figures as a whole exhibit only a very slight increase over those of 1905. In the north and south-west of the province, which were only very slightly affected by agricultural stress or plague, theft and kindred offences have decreased.

In the case of other forms of crime it is satisfactory to notice that in the most serious class of offences against the person a substantial decrease occurred. Murders dropped from 475 to 453, and cases of culpable homicide from 228 to 218. Dakaitis, which reached the high level of 151 cases in 1900, have shewn a remarkable diminution in the last three years and now stand at 46 cases only. Offences relating to coin have also decreased, and the cases detected point to the conclusion that the methods employed are generally clumsy and the counterfeits produced of a crude type. A considerable number of false coins are successfully passed at railway stations, and either the main sources of supply of these have not been discovered, if they exist in the province, or they must be sought further afield. Continued vigilance is therefore necessary to cope successfully with this type of crime. The same remark applies to thefts of arms, for the commission of which trans-border gangs, well organized and cleverly led, are said to be mainly responsible.

50. Statistics afford sufficient indications that the improvement noticed in previous reports has been well maintained, the percentages being much the same as in the two preceding years except in Magistrates' "true cases" where the percentage of convictions showed a marked improvement from 7 to 9. Viewed from the standpoint of improved morale and a generally higher standard of duty there is evidence of gradual progress and the Inspector-General is able to report that with the improved pay and prospects introduced by the reorganization scheme a better and more willing spirit animates all ranks, while descipline has been well maintained. That there is ample justification for this view is shown by the substantial fall in resignations and desertions, the decrease in punishments, both departmental and judicial, and the rise in rewards granted to members of the force. **Working of Police.**

51. Eleven new punitive posts were established during the year and sixteen already in existence were continued for a further period. **Punitive posts.**

52. The railway police had to deal with an increase of 112 cases owing to the addition of 771 miles to their jurisdiction. The Sind section of the North-Western Railway has not yet been taken over by the Bombay Police, but it is hoped that the transfer will not be long delayed. The conduct and working of the railway police were on the whole good, and it is satisfactory to note that the system of co-operation with the district police is undergoing considerable improvement. **Railway Police.**

53. A third range was formed during the year and a Deputy Inspector-General with an office staff appointed. A grade of constables on Rs. 10 per mensem was formed, and this has since been supplemented by a further grade on Rs. 11, which brings the pay and grading of the rank and file up to the standard sanctioned by the Government of India. Sub-Inspectors were regraded on the new scale; six Deputy Superintendents were added to the cadre, and a number of Court and Reserve Inspectors appointed, while conveyance and daily allowances were sanctioned for various grades of the force. **Changes in establishment.**

RURAL POLICE.

(See pages 88 and 89 of the report for 1901-02.) **Rural Police.**

CRIMINAL TRIBES.

54. The total number of persons registered under the Act at the close of the year was 20,258, being an increase of 587 on the previous year's figures. This increase is mainly due to the fact that the registration of the Gutkas of the Lahore district and the Biluchis of two villages in Jhang, which was commenced in 1905, was completed during the year 1906. Convictions show a general decrease of 55 cases, but there was an increase of 58 cases under the Criminal Tribes Act, which may fairly be attributed to better supervision. The number of absentees shows a decrease of 65, which is satisfactory, taking into consideration the increase of 516 registered members in the Lahore and Jhang districts. There were 5,185 exempted persons at the close of 1906, 436 having been exempted during the year This year also the only tribes which showed any signs of improvement were the Baurias, the Harnis, the Minas of Gurgaon and the Giloi Biluchis of the Lyallpur district. Crime committed by the wandering criminal tribes continues to increase. Little real surveillance can be maintained over these gangs in existing circumstances. **Criminal tribes.**

20. Criminal Justice.

55. The most striking feature is the marked rise of nearly 10,000 in the total number of offences reported during the year, which have increased from 188,961 in 1905 to 198,557 in 1906. 130,964 of these cases were returned as true, giving an increase of 3,200 only in offences which are known to have actually occurred. 68 per cent. of this number were under the Indian Penal Code, and the remainder under local and special laws. Of the total number of **Cases and convictions.**

persons brought to trial, 27 per cent. were convicted. In cases under the Penal Code the percentage of convictions is 22 only, which gives the same result as in 1905.

Explanation of the increase.

56. Excluding a rise of 2,000 cases due to the prevalence of scarcity in the Delhi division during the early part of the year and an increase in the number of complaints filed under Act XIII of 1859 owing to the commencement of work on the Upper Chenab Canal, the conclusion arrived at by the Judges is that the bulk of the increase is due to the cause, which has frequently formed the subject of comment in previous reports, *viz.*, the litigious nature of the Punjabi peasant. The Judges in fact go so far as to say that 'resort to the criminal courts becomes every year more popular, and is out of all proportion to the real amount of crime.' The class of offences under which the increases have mainly occurred, consisting of petty assaults, mischief, trespass, intimidation and the like, combined with the very high percentages of failure of these charges for want of prosecution and the very low ratio of convictions obtained, point indubitably to the fact that the bulk of these charges should never have been brought and that litigation of this nature is very largely artificial. Nor is it the case, that these false complaints are always brought in satisfaction of a private grudge. A large number of them probably take their origin in that inveterate habit of using the cheaper agency of the criminal courts in what are really civil disputes, which it is so difficult to repress.

Matrimonial cases.

57. The statistics relating to crime in the province have already been examined in the police report, and the only feature of interest which need be noticed here is the further increase in matrimonial offences. The accepted theory in the past has been that the rise in this class or offences is very largely due to plague, which owing to heavy female mortality has enhanced the value of the women who survive and thereby led to the institution of many fraudulent matrimonial claims, pushed under cover of a criminal charge. It would appear that in certain districts of the province, at any rate, deeper causes are at work, and that a gradual change in social conditions is resulting in the growing independence of women from parental control in their marital relations. The consequence is frequent domestic conflicts followed by the institution of the inevitable complaint of abduction by parents, who allege a previous marriage.

Security cases.

58. There was a considerable increase in the number of persons required to find securitv to keep the peace, the explanation of which is to be found in the fact that magistrates are more careful than formerly not to allow compromises in such cases unless they are satisfied that the matter in dispute has been really settled. Instructions have been issued by the Judges to ensure that the subordinate courts exercise their power of allowing compromises in grievous hurt cases with care and discretion as there is reason to believe that the laxity in permitting compromises in such cases almost as a matter of course has led in the last few years to an increase in cases of serious injury against the person.

21. Prisons.

Jails and jail population.

59. The total admissions into the jails of the province exhibit a very satisfactory decrease from 38,079 in 1905 to 36,426 in 1906, and there has been a steady decline in admissions since 1902, when the figure for all classes stood at 40,657. The daily average population has risen slightly, but this is explained by the considerable increase in transfers from other provinces during the year and also to some extent by the issue of instructions in March 1906 suspending the transportation of term convicts until further orders. The number of jails in the province remained the same, but the new jail at Campbellpur was completed by the 31st December, and the project for a new central jail to serve the southern districts has now reached a practical stage. In spite of the care that is taken to maintain an even distribution of the prison population by transfers, the number of admissions is liable to such sudden and great fluctuations in individual jails that the prevention of overcrowding is a matter of great difficulty. Lahore and

Hoshiarpur among district jails were seriously overcrowded for considerable periods, and the Montgomery central jail was hard pressed for accommodation during most of the year.

Juvenile offenders.

60. The number of juvenile offenders admitted into jail still stands at an unneccessarily high figure in spite of the fact that there is no lack of accommodation in the well-equipped reformatory school at Delhi, and that the rules for admission to that institution were purposely relaxed in January 1906 in order to cover the cases of boy-offenders of almost every type. There is, however, a much more difficult type of convict to deal with, *viz.*, the juvenile adult whose age varies from 16—21 years. Proposals for the separation and special treatment of this class of prisoners are under consideration, and it would be premature to discuss them at the present stage. Hitherto the juvenile adult class has been accommodated in special sections of two of the central jails, and dealt with as far as possible on reformatory lines; but the Inspector-General reports that the practical difficulty of enforcing strict separation from the ordinary prison population has vitiated the value of the system and deprived it of any appreciable success.

Nature of sentences and classification of criminals.

61. The number of first offenders sentenced to terms of imprisonment of six months or less was 9,164, or over 56 per cent. of the total sentenced during the year. The detailed figures moreover show that over two-thirds of this number were imprisoned for periods varying from one to three months only. It is not possible to judge from the jail returns how far these large admissions of casuals are avoidable; but the fact remains that any extensive influx of short-term first offenders renders effective segregation very difficult, and must expose many a prisoner of this class to the risk of contamination. There was considerable improvement in identification and classification on the part of both the police and the courts, and there is some probability of the Inspector-General of Prisons being able to devise a scheme for dealing more effectively with the difficult question of the entire segregation and special treatment of the habitual class.

Discipline.

62. Nine escapes occurred as against one only in 1905. Six of these were from extra-mural gangs, and in only one was there direct suspicion of connivance on the part of the warder in charge. The imposition of fetters and use of mechanical restraint have declined very considerably in recent years, and anything in the nature of extensive resort to this method of ensuring safe custody is mainly confined to two or three small and backward jails. The result has been that greater reliance and responsibility is now placed on the subordinate staff, who have on the whole responded very well to the call on their intelligence and energy. Discipline has been steadily maintained and corporal punishments have been reduced to a very low figure. The habitual offender still contributes in a disproportionate degree to the tale of prison offences, and is responsible for much of the serious crime recorded. Of the 65 prisoners punished with whipping for jail offences during the year 46 were habituals.

Cost, employment and health of prisoners.

63. The average cost per head of the prison population rose from Rs. 67-3-7 in 1905 to Rs. 69-9-9 in 1906, the increase being mainly due to the high prices of food-grains which prevailed during the early part of the year. Considerable economy was effected by timely purchase and storage of grain, and the jail gardens and farms contributed substantially to the support of the prisoners. Thirty-five per cent. of the convict population were employed on manufactures as against 33 per cent. in 1905. The gross profit on manufactures, however, decreased, and the cash earnings per head of those sentenced to labour exhibit a decline from Rs. 10 to Rs. 8-15-0. The bulk of the commodities manufactured are used by Government, and carpet and mat making are alone supported to any extent by the demand of the outside public.

The death rate of 16·34 per mille has again been not merely maintained but lowered during 1906, and stands at the very low figure of 15·76. This result attained during a year in which there was an appreciable increase both in the total

number and daily average of the sick treated furnishes a very valuable testimonial to the efficiency of the medical and sanitary arrangements of the jails in the province. Six cases of plague occurred with two deaths, but the disease was stamped out at once and did not spread.

22. Civil Justice.

Institutions.

64. The decline in the volume of civil litigation, which has been a prominent feature of the reports of several years past, experienced a marked check during the year. The number of suits instituted (167,350) represents an increase of 7 per cent. over the figures for 1905, and, although three districts, in which special local conditions stimulated litigation, account for a third of the increase, the balance is fairly well distributed over the province. The fact that the rise in institutions was very largely under the head of suits for money or moveable property seems to substantiate the explanation given in the report that the check furnished by the extension of the limitation period in Act I of 1904 is now disappearing and that the first batch of suits held up in consequence of the passing of that Act was filed in the year under report. In the course of the next two or three years it will be possible to gauge with greater accuracy what the precise effect of the Act has been.

The report contains marked indications of improvement in the status and well-being of the agriculturist, who seems to have taken considerable advantage of the special privileges he enjoys under both the Land Alienation and Pre-emption Acts. Suits for redemption of mortgage increased by 700, and notices and suits for sale and of foreclosure exhibit a substantial decline, while litigation involving money-lenders and agriculturists is less than sixty per cent. of what it was in 1901.

The average value of the suits instituted was Rs. 139-8-4 as compared with Rs. 151-11-4 in 1905. The figure for 1905 was abnormally high owing to the temporary decrease in suits for money and moveable property, and the average value for 1906, which is considerably greater than that recorded in 1903 and 1904, may be regarded as a satisfactory feature of the year's returns. It is improbable, however, that the present rate will be maintained, when petty litigation again reaches its normal level.

Disposals.

65. The courts have on the whole kept pace satisfactorily with the volume of original litigation with which they have had to deal. The number of cases decided was 3,404 in excess of the previous year, and even with the large increase in institutions the pending file was kept down to a comparatively reasonable level. At the same time the average duration of uncontested cases has fallen and that of contested cases has remained at the same figure as in 1905 in spite of a considerable increase in cases of a complicated nature.

The state of business in the Chief Court exhibits a very marked improvement over preceding years owing to the temporary strengthening of the Court by the appointment of four additional Judges, and there is reason to hope that the continuance of one of the extra Judges for a further period of six months will place the file of the court on a satisfactory basis. The burden of appellate work in Divisional Courts, however, increased very considerably during the year, and the pending file has reached dimensions which indicate marked congestion in all the courts. The question of strengthening this branch of the judicial agency is under consideration. The average duration of appeals in District Courts rose from 28 to 33 days, but the work seems to be well in hand and the pending file is reasonably low.

Execution.

66. The percentage of realizations in execution of decrees still stands at 24, or less than a quarter of the total value of money decrees in execution, and can hardly be regarded as satisfactory. It is hoped that a marked improvement will follow the introduction of the revised Code of Civil Procedure.

23. Registration.

67. The number of documents registered, of which the registration was compulsory, has risen from 58,476 to 69,970 or by 16 per cent.: the value of the property transferred has mounted from 418 lakhs to 500 lakhs of rupees, that is by the same percentage of 16. Sales and mortgages have both increased to a considerable extent — sales by 2,635 in number and by 34 lakhs of rupees in value, mortgages by 8,666 in number and by 65 lakhs of rupees in value. This very marked revival in business is found in most districts, and statistics show that the increase took place entirely in the first six months of the year. The chief cause throughout the province was probably the comparative immunity from plague during this period as compared with the previous years and the consequent completion of transfers which had been held in abeyance. Locally there were also special circumstances in favour of the revival as for instance the emigration of a large number of peasants from the Hoshiárpur and Jullundur districts who executed documents before leaving their homes, and the sale of tea estates and other property by Europeans in Kángra in consequence of the earthquake. **Compulsory registrations, sales and mortgages.**

68. There has been a small rise in the number of documents optionally registered from 8,954 to 9,065, but the value of them has fallen from 947 thousands to 918 thousands of rupees. The small increase is of importance only as marking a turn in a tide which has been ebbing since 1902. **Optional registrations.**

69. Registration income has risen by Rs. 45,178 from Rs. 2,35,289 to Rs. 2,80,467 and expenditure has gone up from Rs. 1,24,810 to Rs. 1,33,633. The rise in expenditure is due to the introduction from April 1st, 1906, of a system based on that in force in the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh, by which sub-registrars doing duty at tahsil head-quarters have with a few exceptions been made departmental public servants remunerated by a fixed salary— usually of Rs. 30 per mensem — plus 15 per cent. of the fee income, instead of by a percentage of fees only as heretofore. Few, if any, of the sub-registrars have failed to benefit by the change and in the case of the smaller offices the pecuniary gain has been marked and the new system has been heartily welcomed. **Income and expenditure.**

70. During the year two offices at tahsil head-quarters, where work was light, and three out-offices were closed. Four new offices were opened at tahsil head-quarters. There were at the close of the year 17 honorary sub-registrars, 87 departmental sub-registrars and 8 cantonment magistrates doing registration work in addition to 29 treasury and sub-treasury officers working as sub-registrars and 90 such officers working as joint sub-registrars. **Establishment.**

24. Local Boards Administration.

71. As regards the constitution of the boards, the only changes deserving mention are the reconstitution of the Gurgaon district board as a wholly nominated body and the abolition of local boards in Ferozepore. The necessity for the latter step only goes further to emphasize the failure of local boards to provide the means of local self-government in mofassil areas. In Kángra alone are local boards found to serve a useful purpose, and there only as consultative bodies. **Constitution of district and local boards.**

72. The district reports as a whole make it quite clear that the abolition of the elective system, to which effect has been given during the year in Gurgaon, is in no way a matter for regret. The apathy attending elections is specially commented upon by the Deputy Commissioners of Kángra, Hoshiárpur and Siálkot. The district officer of Gujránwála goes so far as to describe the system as unpopular except when it is perverted in order to serve the ends of local factions and animosity. **Elections.**

Meetings and work.

73. In Ambála, Gujránwála and Siálkot the Deputy Commissioners are making genuine effort to avail themselves of the advice and assistance of the representatives of the rural classes, and it is to be hoped that these efforts will not be abortive. In Multán and Ludhiána the members appear to be asked for and to give their advice freely, and in Lahore it appears that the members are willing to evince interest in the administration of the district if they can feel that the district officer is consulting them on matters on which their opinion is of value to him, and on which their advice is likely to be accepted.

25. Municipal Administration.

Constitution of committees.

74. As regards alterations in the area and constitution of municipal committees, the year 1905-07 has been uneventful. The question of the abolition of a number of petty municipalities, whose income and population appeared *primâ facie* too insignificant to deserve the municipal status, was considered, with the result that in a number of cases both the local officers of Government and the inhabitants of the towns themselves declared in favour of abolition. The case is at present under consideration. The overhauling of the octroi arrangements has in many towns necessitated the revision of boundaries,—a change which in most cases is well understood by the people and excites little interest. In order to admit of a better representation of the various classes of the community, reduction in the number of elective seats was found necessary in Ferozepore. Throughout the province 50 per cent. of the municipal commissioners are elected, in spite of the total absence of the elective system in large tracts of the western divisions. Out of a total of 1,485 members, officials number 298 and Europeans 107, respectively; there is therefore an official proportion of barely 20 per cent. of the whole. In only 52 out of 231 cases were vacant seats contested. In Ráwalpindi, Delhi and Ferozepore alone are the elections reported to arouse any interest, and in these places the interest appears to have attached to men rather than to measures.

Working of the committees.

75. Except in Shahpur and in a few small municipalities of the Lahore division, the number of meetings held was satisfactory; this is especially the case with the larger towns of the Delhi division and in the Multán division generally. Petty intrigue seems to have characterised the proceedings of a number of municipalities in the Delhi division, and factiousness and obstruction were rife in Ráwalpindi and Bhera. On the other hand, it is satisfactory to note the activity in Ludhiána and Siálkot, and in particular to observe that the introduction of the new system of accounts is said to have infused a fresh vigour into municipal life. The only new rules worthy of comment passed during the year refer to the extension of the provident fund system, and to the registration of children's names.

Octroi.

76. The revision of the octroi schedules for the province has progressed satisfactorily, almost 50 revised schedules having been notified up to the present date. A house-tax was substituted for octroi in the notified area of Rámdás, the abolition of the latter impost has been approved of for Murree, and the question of its abolition in notified areas is being considered. The problem of finding a substitute is one of considerable complexity, but signs are not wanting that the old prejudice gainst direct taxation is, at any rate in the more advanced trading centres of the province, beginning to break down. A general improvement is reported regarding the methods of collection of octroi, and the results of better supervision are reflected in the total receipts, but the cost of collection appears still very high, and has shewn a marked increase since the introduction of the Account Code. The percentage is particularly noticeable in the case of such small towns as Anandpur (32·65), Dharmkot (30·65), Aláwalpur (32·15), Makhu (75·2), Khudián (105) and Nárowál (39). The obvious unsuitability of this form of taxation in such cases needs no further comment, for the octroi seems to be collected almost entirely for the benefit of the establishment maintained for that purpose. Whatever effect the new system has

or has not had upon the financial position of municipalities, it certainly has proved conclusively that it was introduced none too soon in the interests of through trade.

77. The total receipts from taxation in municipalities rose by Rs. 1,31,000, octroi being responsible for an increase of Rs. 58,000. Taxation income in notified areas increased by Rs. 9,300. A comparison of the net octroi income with that of the previous year affords considerable interest in view of the prediction that the new accounts system, in spite of the free grant of refunds, would increase the revenue of municipalities. That it had this result in the United Provinces is, it is believed, an established fact. The figures given below for the main municipalities of the province exhibit a comparison between the year under report and the previous year in respect of both gross and net octroi receipts :— Taxation.

Receipts from octroi.

	+ more, — less than last year's figures.	
	Gross.	*Net.*
	Rs.	Rs.
Delhi ...	+ 908	− 7,197
Simla ...	− 19,712	+ 4,387
Lahore ...	+ 44,916	+ 9,066
Amritsar ...	+ 30,544	− 23,487
Siálkot ...	+ 21,580	+ 16,094
Ráwalpindi ...	+ 224	− 41,797
Multán ...	+ 6,902	+ 13,765

The diversity of these figures makes it difficult to form any safe opinion regarding the financial effects of the new system on one year's returns but the very large amount of refunds granted in Amritsar and Ráwalpindi would *primâ facie* seem to indicate that the schedules worked upon need careful scrutiny and possibly revision. Excluding the hill municipalities, the incidence of taxation per head exceeded Rs. 2 in 12 municipalities. In Lahore it was Rs. 2-12-0, in Delhi Rs. 2-1-6, in Amritsar Rs. 2-3-0, and in Ráwalpindi Rs. 3-5-10. In the hill municipalities the incidence was naturally very much higher except in Dharmsála, which has hardly begun its fresh existence since the earthquake.

78. The Examiner of Local Funds Accounts reports that a general improvement is noticeable in the financial administration of municipalities. This improvement is the result of the greater interest taken by municipal commissioners, and also to the fact that the impovements in pay have attracted a better class of employés and to the more efficient check and control over business methods. The introduction of provident funds should tend still further to improve the status of this class of employé. The accounts of 79 municipalities and notified areas have been audited during the year, involving a check of the accounts for the three years—1903 to 1906—in each case. Serious irregularities were revealed in the accounts of the Rohtak, Ludhiána, Nárowál, Kila Sobha Singh, Lyallpur and Akálgarh municipalities, and Daud, Begowál and Khangah Dográn notified areas. Audit.

79. Health in municipalities was generally good, except for plague which was prevalent throughout the province and exhibited particular virulence in the district of Jullundur. The Ludhiána water-works scheme, estimated to cost over 4 lakhs of rupees, has made considerable progress, and the Amritsar-Patti Railway has been opened. A conservancy tramway at Lahore is nearing completion, and two mono-rail projects are under contemplation in the Ambála district. General.

26. Military (Volunteers).

Strength and distribution of Volunteer Forces.

80. The Strength of the Volunteer Corps on the 31st March 1907 is reported to have been as follows :—

Corps.	Company.	Station.	Officers.	Non-Commissioned Officers.	Privates.	Total enrolled strength.	Total number of efficients.	Sergeant Instructors.
Punjab Light Horse.	...	Field Officers and Staff	9	...	...	9	9	4
	A	Lahore	10	9	78	97	65	...
	B	Ambála	2	7	38	47	43	...
	C	Ráwalpindi	2	6	56	64	41	...
	D	Peshávar	1	3	21	25	21	...
	...	Reservists	1	...	48	49	49	...
		Add for Supernumerary Officers	4	...	...	4	...	...
		Total ...	29	25	241	295	228	4
1st Punjab Volunteer Rifles.	...	Field Officers and Staff	10	...	...	10	10	11
	A, B, C & Cadet ½ Company.	Lahore	16	40	215	271	257	...
	D	Ráwalpindi	4	11	100	115	112	...
	E	Amritsar	2	6	31	39	39	...
	F	Delhi	3	7	47	57	57	...
	G & H	Murree...	4	16	107	127	124	...
	I	Peshávar	1	8	38	47	45	...
	K	Ferozepore	1	8	61	70	66	...
	L	Srinagar	3	7	30	40	39	...
	L. Sec.	Siálkot	...	2	13	15	15	...
	...	Reservists	...	...	69	69	69	...
	...	Add for Supernumerary Officers	26	...	...	26	...	...
		Total ...	70	105	711	886	833	11
Simla Volunteer Rifles.	...	Field Officers and Staff	9	...	...	9	9	3
	A	Simla	3	7	23	33	31	...
	B		3	11	88	102	92	...
	C		2	7	52	61	58	...
	D		3	8	44	55	53	...
	E		3	11	81	95	92	...
	F	Kasauli	2	8	111	121	121	...
	...	Honorary and Supernumerary Officers ...	8	...	...	8	...	...
		Total ...	33	52	399	484	456	3
North-Western Railway Volunteer Rifles.	...	Field Officers and Staff	9	...	...	9	9	10
	A	Karáchi Cantonment	2	6	41	49	48	...
	B	Multán	3	9	114	126	125	...
	C	Lahore	15	18	193	226	221	...
	D	Lahore	3	11	80	94	87	...
	E	Ambála	1	10	68	79	77	...
	F	Saháranpur	4	13	115	132	130	...
	G	Kotri...	2	8	69	79	79	...
	H	Lahore	2	16	82	100	98	...
	I	Quetta	4	12	62	78	76	...
	K	Ráwalpindi	1	18	121	140	138	...
	L	Sukkar	8	12	101	121	120	...
	M	Karáchi City...	...	6	60	66	65	...
	...	Honorary and Supernumerary Members ...	9	...	...	9	...	...
		Total ...	63	139	1,106	1,308	1,273	10

Inspections.

81. The Punjab Light Horse, the 1st Punjab Volunteer Rifle Corps and the North-Western Railway Volunteer Rifles were inspected in March 1907 and the Simla Volunteer Rifles in October 1906. The results were considered satisfactory.

CHAPTER IV.

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

[Detailed information on the subjects dealt with in this chapter will be found in the reports and statistical tables noted below :—

Agriculture.—(1) Report on the operations of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Punjab, for the year ending 30th September 1906.

(2) Annual Report of the Experimental Farm, Lyallpur, for the autumn and spring harvests 1905-06.

(3) Report on the operations of the Department of Agriculture, Punjab, for the year ending June 30th, 1907.

(4) Annual Report of the Punjab Veterinary College and of the Civil Veterinary Department, Punjab, for the year 1906-07.

(5) Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Punjab for the agricultural year ending 30th September 1906.

(6) Report on the working of Co-operative Credit Societies for the year ending 31st March 1907.

Weather and Crops.—(1) Report on the Meteorology and Climatology of the Punjab for the year 1906-07.

(2) Punjab Season and Crops Report for 1906-07.

Horticulture.—Annual Report on the Government Agri-Horticultural Gardens, Lahore, for the year ending 31st March 1907.

Forests.—Progress Report on Forest Administration in the Punjab for 1906-07.

Arboriculture.—Progress Report on the Arboriculture in the Punjab for the triennial period 1903-04 to 1905-06.

Mines and Quarries.—(1) Reports on the working of the Dandot Colliery for the half-years ending 30th June 1906 and 31st December 1906.

(2) Statement showing the produce of minerals and gems for the calendar year 1906.

Manufactures.—Report on the working of the Factories Act during the year 1906.

Trade.—(1) Report on the Internal Land Trade of the Punjab for the year ending March 31st, 1907.

(2) Report on the External Land Trade of the Punjab for the year 1906-07.

(3) Report by the Registrar of the Joint Stock Companies on the working of the Joint Stock Companies in the Punjab during the year 1906-07.

Irrigation.—Revenue Report of the Irrigation Department in the Punjab for the year ending 31st March 1907.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

Agricuture.—Prices and Wages in India, 23rd issue, 1906.

Weather and Crops.—Agricultural Statistics of India, 22nd issue, Tables 3-H, 4-H, 7, 7-A and 10-E.

Mines and Quarries.—Records of Geological Survey of India, Vol. XXXIII, part I.

Report of the Chief Inspector of Mines in India under the Indian Mines Act (VIII of 1901) for the year ending 31st December 1906.

Manufactures.—Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India, 11th issue, Table XIX.

Financial and Commercial Statistics, 13th issue, sections XXI Cotton Mills and XXVIII Sundry Industries.

Railways.—Administration Report on Railways in India for the calendar year 1906.

Trade.—Accounts of the trade carried by rail and river in India, 18th issue.]

27. Agriculture.

Agricultural Department.

82. The year under report has been in the main spent on preliminary operations and the general organization of the department. At the Lyallpur college, the Principal has been engaged in preparing a curriculum for the college course, which it is hoped to start by the 1st of July 1908. The European staff has recently been completed by the appointment of an expert in botany, and proposals have been laid before the Government of India since the close of the year for the recruitment of Assistant Professors including experts in entomology and mycology. The conduct of the general branch has fallen mainly on the Deputy Director, who has, in addition to experiments regarding improved seeds, exotic cotton, and sugarcane, devoted much time to the investigation of the causes of the prevalence of alkali in canal-irrigated tracts. In this inquiry, which should lead to valuable results, he has had the assistance of the recently appointed agricultural chemist. The subordinate staff of Assistant Superintendent of Farms and Agricultural Assistants has not yet been fully organized, though preparations for recruitment are going on, and several stipendiary candidates are now receiving instruction at Cawnpore. The eastern circle of the province has not yet been constituted.

Experimental farms.

83. The conditions of the year were not favourable to the experiments at the Lyallpur farm. The failure of the cotton crop and the heavy and unseasonable rains affected the work there very prejudicially. At Sargodha the efforts of the Colonization Officer to popularise improved varieties of seed met with a considerable measure of success. A programme of experiments was drawn up, which, under the expert guidance of the new Principal, should produce thoroughly reliable results. In view of the change effected in the administration, the acquisition of the extra area of 200 acres, which are to be added to the station, has been postponed until the coming year.

Purchases of cotton seed were made from the farm by the Deputy Director for outside sowings. All the remaining seed available was issued to the Colony grantees, who have shown an eager appreciation of its merits, as is evidenced by the increased sales. In all, 258 maunds of cotton seed and 358 maunds of wheat seed grown on the farm were issued from the store. These figures are a substantial advance on those reported last year. Seven reaping machines were employed in the two colonies for demonstration purposes. The types were two—self-delivery and manual-delivery machines. The former type is really too heavy and complicated in its present form for our purposes. Of the latter type only one was purchased and after a preliminary trial this was hired out to a prominent grantee living near Lyallpur. He was so satisfied with it that after two or three days' experience he asked permission to purchase it, which was accorded. The success of this fairly light, simple machine, worked without extraneous assistance throughout the harvest, has excited much curiosity among the Chenab Colony zamindars, and it is intended to import at least 20 similar machines for private purchasers next year. A really satisfactory thresher and winnower has not yet been discovered.

Agricultural operations in the districts.

84. There was a considerable expansion in both the large colonies in the area under acclimatised American cotton. 1,650 acres were sown, but in spite of the special efforts made by the Canal Department to supply sufficient water the outturn was only $2\frac{1}{4}$ maunds per acre. The price realised was good, being Re. 1-6-0 per maund above that of the indigenous variety. In the opinion of the British Cotton Growing Association and Messrs. Ralli Bros. the samples were little better than ordinary 'Bengals', but the Muir Mills, Cawnpore, and other firms considered the cotton well worth the price realised. Small experiments with Egyptian cotton were made in various districts. In Hissar they were not a success, but in Miánwáli and Muzaffargarh the outturn was excellent, and it would certainly appear that the Egyptian varieties are well worth further trials in the south-western districts of the Province.

Punjab Veterinary College.

85. The receipts of the Lahore Veterinary College show an increase of Rs. 2,000, chiefly in fees, but there was also a heavy rise (Rs. 11,000) in contingent expenditure. The canine ward brought in Rs. 800. 118

students were admitted and 287 remained at the close of the year as compared with 215 in the preceding one. The educational qualifications of the students admitted were good, including knowledge of English in 85 cases as against 26 last year. 63 candidates passed the final examination out of 78, a percentage of 80, and all the graduated students obtained employment. The percentage of success in the other two classes was 90 and 89, respectively. It is interesting to observe that over 60 per cent. of the students are Muhammadans. A new clinic for out-patients was constructed during the year, and further improvements are in course of completion. Attempts were made to obtain a first class farrier for the forge, but have not yet been successful.

Civil Veterinary Department.

86. In the administration of the Civil Veterinary Department the most notable feature of the year was the formation of a new circle including the North-West Frontier Province; but the advantages of the new arrangement have been seriously discounted by the inability of the department to supply properly qualified officers to the 3rd Circle. A scheme for reorganising the cadre and work of Veterinary Assistants was worked out, and sanctioned. It is intended to replace the itinerating Assistant at each tahsil by a stationary one, leaving one Assistant to tour through the whole district. The proposed system is no doubt open to the objection that it is difficult to bring in sick animals to the tahsil for treatment, but it was thought that this objection is more than counterbalanced by the ease, with which it will be possible to secure the services of the Tahsil Assistant on the occasion of neighbouring outbreaks. The Local Government has made an assignment of one lakh of rupees per annum for five years to district boards to be spent on Veterinary objects.

Deaths from contagious disease (in non-selected districts) among equines fell from 135 to 38, the only noticeable outbreak being one of 'surra' in Montgomery. The number of recorded deaths among bovines on the other hand rose from 10,000 to 17,000. Rinderpest was rife in Karnál, Kángra, Ferozepore and Montgomery, and carried off almost 8,000 animals in the province as compared with 4,000 last year. There was also a large rise in the deaths from hæmorrhagic septicæmia, and black-quarter destroyed over 1,100 head of cattle. A vigorous campaign of preventive inoculation, attended by a considerable measure of success, was carried on against the three diseases last mentioned, the number of animals so treated rising from fifty-seven thousand to one hundred and ten thousand.

Condition of cattle.

87. The districts of the Delhi division are still suffering from the effects of last year's fodder famine. From Hissar it is pointed out that the great losses in bullocks and cows occasioned by the famines of 1896-97 and 1899-1900 have not yet been made good. In the settlement of 1890-91 the figure for these two classes was 536,598: it is now 164,090 or less by more than ⅔rds. In Gurgaon the condition of cattle has much improved since last year: in Delhi the numbers of cattle are believed to be still below normal, the district not having fully recovered from the cycle of lean years which began in 1895-96. In Karnál the drought of last year has reduced the head of young stock. The supply of fodder was ample, and putting aside the deaths from disease, noted in the last paragraph, cattle were in good condition throughout the province. The prospects for next year are far from promising, as the failure of the monsoon has caused great scarcity, especially in the Delhi division.

Agricultural pests.

88. The following measures were undertaken with a view to the extermination of the boll-worm (earias insulana), to the ravages of which the disastrous failure of the cotton crop last year was mainly ascribed. All standing cotton crops were burned and all cotton fields ploughed up in December and January. The bhindi (hibiscus esculentus) was cultivated as a trap crop, and an attempt was made to reintroduce the boll-worm's parasite (Rhogas Lefroyi). The sowing of the trap crop on which the greatest reliance was placed was only a very partial success, and the boxes of parasitised boll-worms were received too late in the season to be used to the best advantage. Of the 14 districts affected last year 6 escaped. In the remaining 8 the boll-worm

appeared early in the season and the first buds and pickings were lost. The situation improved steadily after the fall of satisfactory rain in September. The boll-worm gradually disappeared and later pickings were fairly satisfactory.

At the beginning of the cold weather large swarms of locusts which deposited eggs in various districts threatened a calamity as serious as that suffered by the province in 1891-92, but, fortunately, the low temperatures of the spring and heavy rains retarded the hatching out of the young insects, and when they did emerge the spring crops had advanced too far towards maturity to be much affected by their attacks. The Imperial Entomologist himself visited the province and carried out experiments with artificial methods for the destruction of hoppers. The most effective of these was a soap and water solution of the same kind as is used in German East Africa, but the final conclusion was that expense must prohibit the use of artificial means, and that the simpler methods of destroying the eggs and trapping the young insects are the most satisfactory, especially when it is necessary to work over an extended area.

Loans to agriculturists.

89. Rupees 1,90,000 were advanced under the Land Improvement Loans Act and Rs. 9,97,000 under the Agriculturists' Loans Act, increases of Rs. 14,000 and Rs. 6,17,000 respectively. The large increase under the latter Act was due to the conditions of scarcity prevailing in the Delhi division, the three districts of Hissar, Rohtak and Gurgaon receiving between them 5½ lakhs. The new and simplified procedure introduced at the instance of the Government of India for facilitating the distribution of loans has been of the greatest assistance in enabling the staff to deal promptly with the applications.

Co-operative credit societies.

90. The report on the working of co-operative credit societies covers a period of 15 months ending with the 30th of June 1907, and marks a distinct advance in the operations of the Registrar and his staff. During the periods dealt with in the two previous reports the experiment of co-operative banking was in its most rudimentary stage. The first report was one of preliminary organisation and of expectations. In the second considerable progress was reported, but it was impossible to forecast how far the results merely represented a fleeting curiosity regarding the latest experiment of Government, and whether the success of the movement was likely to be transitory, or permanent and substantial. Of the 151 societies which had been registered in March 1906, the bulk had come into official existence within two months of the close of the year, and it was not known how far they were mere paper societies, whose operations depended upon adventitious assistance from Government agencies. Of the 328 societies now enrolled, 174 or more than half are in full working order, and with a capital of Rs. 2,85,000 were able to show profits, after in many cases only 18 months' working, of over Rs. 26,000. Of the capital raised during the period (Rs. 2,37,000), Rs. 85,500 were contributions towards shares, Rs. 93,000 represented deposits and Rs. 43,000 were advances by Government or Sir D. Hamilton. Rupees 2,60,000 were lent by societies, and Rs. 60,000 lent were repaid.

There are signs that where the co-operative credit movement has taken root, the charges of the village money-lender are becoming more fair and reasonable. The experience gained points to the advisability of restricting the areas in which the societies operate. There is no spontaneous desire to found caste or tribal organisations. Even the village is in many cases too large a unit for really successful work, and a sub-division of a village, in which every man knows the most minute detail of every other man's financial position and moral character, is the most promising field for a new society. This being so, the great question is which type is to be selected as the best suited for the needs of the province. The conditions vary enormously, but there appears to be one system which is pre-eminently the best. Of the 174 active societies, 100 are working on it, and it is adapted from that popularised in Italy by Signor Luzzati. In this the members become share-holders by payment of ten compulsory annual instalments. No dividends are declared for ten years, when three quarters of the profits are divided among the share-holders, the remaining

fourth being transferred to the reserve fund, which is made available for the general purposes of the society. These societies usually lend at about 9 per cent. and pay 5 per cent. on fixed deposits. Under this system, which was devised by the pioneers of Gurdáspur, every member has a palpable interest in the society's success, and the prospect of obtaining after ten years what is looked upon in the light of a pension is reported to appeal with great force to the Punjabi peasant. Experience points to the elimination of two types which do not appear likely to become popular, one that in which the society depends mainly on the deposits or credit of the wealthier members, and the other evolved in Miánwáli for the formation of capital by small grain deposits. The latter offers no inducement to the capital of the richer, while in the former true co-operation is entirely lacking, the weaker brethren being financed by the philanthropy of the more wealthy.

Prices.

91. Although prices have in most cases ruled easier than last year, they are still generally above normal level. The price of wheat has dropped to normal or below normal only in the northernmost districts, which have reported an excellent harvest. It shows a decline in all the districts of the Delhi division excepting Simla and Ambála, but this is by far the least important wheat tract of the Province. In 13 districts there has been an actual advance and for this the reason must be sought in the unsatisfactory yield of the late harvest. Barley generally shows very little divergence from last year's prices. The extensive sowings of jowar* affected the price favourably, and there was a sharp fall in practically every district but Multán. Most districts report a satisfactory fall in the price of maize, but Kángra and Hoshiárpur are exceptions. The price of gram has shown a marked rise in 6 districts, on account of the damage done by the seasonal calamities of the early spring. Rapeseed is an exception to the general tendency towards decline. Its price is appreciably higher everywhere partly owing to the comparatively poor yield of the spring crop. The fall in sugar rates indicates a return to normal conditions of cultivation and a further recovery from the injury inflicted on cane by the frost of 1905. Prices for cotton were easier and reflect the improvement in the crop due to its partial immunity from boll-worm attacks.

28. Weather and Crops.

The annual rains.

92. The spring showers of February and March 1906 were general and sufficient for early autumn sowings. The monsoon current reached the Eastern Punjab in the third week of June, giving a fair amount of rain in the Delhi division and submontane districts until about the 10th July, when a somewhat prolonged break occurred. A second period of rainy weather at the end of July and in the first half of August was mainly confined again to the Delhi division and the adjoining districts of Hoshiárpur and Ludhiána. Another lengthy break ensued in the Delhi division up to the end of August As regards the rest of the Punjab, fairly satisfactory showers fell in July in the districts of Ráwalpindi, Gujrát and Miánwáli. In the remaining districts there was a considerable deficiency of moisture in that month. In August well-distributed rain, good to average in quantity, was registered in the districts of Jullundur, Ludhiána, Amritsar, Gurdáspur and Siálkot. In the hill districts of Simla and Kángra the precipitation was abnormally heavy; but other districts had to wait until the third or even fourth week of the month for good rain. September made amends for all previous deficiencies, the rainfall in the first fortnight being largely in excess everywhere and in some localities causing a certain amount of damage to the standing crops. The Multán division alone was excluded from participation in this rainfall, but was compensated by high river floods and a late and abundant flow of water in the inundation canals. The months of October and November were, as usual, rainless: and no rain was registered in the Punjab until the 18th and 19th December when maximum falls of over $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in the submontane districts and minimum falls of $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{3}$ inch in the Delhi and Multán divisions were recorded. Four districts, however—Rohtak, Karnál, Jhang and Lyallpur—received no rain. A storm which visited the Province on the 8th January was succeeded by occasional light showers during the last week of the month.

*_Jowar_: millet.

The distribution of these left Shahpur and the south-west districts untouched. The rains received in February were generally abnormal and excessive. In some cases considerable damage to the standing crops in low-lying lands was reported, but the distribution was somewhat capricious. The showers in the Delhi division were not beyond the needs of the situation, but very heavy falls were reported from the Jullundur and Ráwalpindi divisions. Few districts escaped the abnormal precipitations which occurred so unseasonably in March ; and in April after a brief hot spell in the early part of the month, rain again set in with serious detriment to the ripening crops which had already been affected by the cloudy weather of the preceding months. The mischief was aggravated by occasional showers in May when the harvest was ready for the sickle. Summing up, it may be said that in comparison with the average nearly every district received an excess rainfall. In the cases of many districts, especially the submontane, the excess was considerable. In the Kángra and Simla districts it amounted to as much as 58 and 40 inches respectively. In Delhi, Karnál, Ferozepore, Amritsar and the south-western districts there was a slight deficiency on the average.

The autumn harvest.

93. The area placed under autumn crops amounted to 10,921,8 acres, an advance on the previous year of 3 per cent. but less by 8 per cent. than the quinquennial average. More extensive sowings would have taken place in the Central Punjab but for the late arrival of the monsoon in that tract, the extensive area under spring crops in 1905-06 and the apprehended recurrence of cotton boll-worm. The increase of cultivated area was entirely on unirrigated lands and mainly in the Delhi division which benefited greatly by the excellent rains. The area of failed crops shrank from 4,374,820 acres to 1,637,654 acres. Ferozepore returned the lowest autumn figures recorded for years : and similarly Siálkot is reported to have had the smallest autumn harvest known during the currency of the present settlement. Cotton sowings were 5 per cent. below the normal on the whole provincial area. Expanded cultivation of this staple in the Delhi and Jullundur divisions was more than counterbalanced by the contractions elsewhere. The areas placed under jowar* and bajra* show an enormous increase over last year's figures, mainly in the Delhi division, and the outturns were generally good in consequence of the beneficial rain in August and early September. The yield of rice was above the normal, the only considerable deficiency being in Kángra and due to excessive rain. Considering the large area sown bajra was rather disappointing. Maize suffered in the submontane districts from the excessive rain. Sugarcane did well everywhere. Cotton shewed a great improvement on the preceding year, when it was 46 per cent. below normal. Irrigated cotton was again attacked by boll-worm, but rallied after the September rains, and pickings continued later than usual owing to the exceptionally mild winter.

The spring harvest.

94. For the spring crop 18,953,672 acres were sown as against 17,541,060 acres last year. The figures are 27 per cent. above the normal area : and the expansion is attributable to the favourable conditions as regards moisture at sowing time and to the restriction of the previous cotton sowings. In some cases, too, where a failure of the standing cotton seemed imminent, land was hastily ploughed up and sown again. The increase in the sown unirrigated area amounted to 1,648,651 acres : but, as in the case of the autumn crop, the irrigated area showed a contraction. This is to be explained by the nature of the season. The area returned as failed rose slightly from 2,008,316 acres to 2,242,775 ; oilseeds, gram and wheat being mainly responsible for the increase. The area under wheat was 26 per cent. and that under oilseeds 32 per cent. above the quinquennial average. In spite of the promising outlook the results were disappointing. Wheat suffered severely from the unseasonable rains and winds. The damage done to the grain which was light and shrivelled was not fully realised until it had been threshed. Despite the expansion in the area cropped the total gross produce of the wheat harvest was only 97 per cent. of the normal and as much as 32 per cent. below last year's figures. Barley suffered much less than wheat in most districts and was on the whole above the normal. The gross produce of (spring) oilseeds was 137 per cent. above

*Two kinds of millet.

the normal. Allowing for the excess in area sown over the quinquennial average the yield of the crop must be considered to be disappointing except in the case of toria (*brassica campestris*), which did well.

Irrigation.

95. The vast bulk of the area irrigated in the Province is watered by Government canals, and apart from the statistics compiled to show areas irrigated by private canals and tanks no other data as to the numbers of these works are collected. Irrigation from tanks is unimportant. Compared with the figures for 1901-02 the number of masonry wells in use has risen by 108 and of non-masonry wells decreased by 10,748. This latter phenomenon is, of course, explained by the wet nature of the season. The proportion of the irrigated to the total cropped area in the province is 26 per cent., the figures showing a shrinkage of 711,149 acres when compared with last year, as the copious rains enabled the cultivators to dispense largely with artificial irrigation.

29. Horticulture and Arboriculture.

Horticulture.

96. During the year the management of the Mahasu orchards has been entrusted to the Forest Department. In the Lahore Agri-Horticultural Gardens there was a surplus on the year's working of Rs. 2,500. Expenditure fell from Rs. 39,000 to Rs. 35,000, concurrently with a large rise in the proceeds of the sale of garden produce. In consequence of this improved working the accumulated savings account was left untouched, and special Government assistance was confined to a grant of Rs. 3,000 for minor works. The new lawns and reclaimed corners in various parts of the gardens gave opportunity for much tree and shrub planting. A number of unsightly banks have also been screened by suitable hedges. These, generally, are flourishing. With a view to the subsequent establishment of an orchard, in which will be concentrated all the species and varieties of fruits in the gardens, extensive plantings of young trees have been taken in hand.

Fruit acclimatisation.

97. The attempt in the Dera Ghází Khan district to acclimatise date palms obtained from Makran appears doomed to failure. Only 6 out of 25 plants are in existence. Mediterranean oranges imported three years ago into Gujránwála are reported to be doing well and their fruit to be a great improvement on that of the old stock of Maltas, which show signs of deterioration.

Arboriculture.

98. A report is issued on Arboriculture every three years, and will be due next year. Great efforts are being made to extend the planting of avenues, and a substantial portion of the grant-in-aid to district boards is being devoted to this object.

30. Forests.

Area.

99. The area in charge of the Forest Department has been reduced by 30,857 acres during the past year, chiefly by transfer to the Colonization Department, or disforestation on account of the new colonies. Further areas are still to be given up for the same purpose. The new Pír Mahal Plantation of 45,000 acres in the Chenab Colony will be a valuable addition to the reserved forests of the province and go some way to compensate for the losses caused by the extension of irrigation.

Settlements.

100. In the Multán divison 74 square miles of unclassed forest have been settled under chapter IV of the Forest Act, and the settlement as reserved forest of 70 square miles of forests of various classes in the Chenab Colony has been commenced in order that the Pír Mahal Plantation may be created. The settlement of the proposed reserves, 15 square miles in area, of the Tera and other rakhs in the Lahore division, as well as of the 205 square miles of the jagir forests in Kángra and of the Pabar leased forests in Bashahr, are still pending.

Demarcation.

11. The total length of artificially demarcated boundaries is 10,865 miles, being an increase of 20 miles over the length demarcated at the close of the previous year. The expenditure on new works was Rs. 289, and on repairs

Rs. 3,244, being Rs. 352 and Rs. 1,458, respectively, less than that of the previous year. There has been a great deal of tampering with boundary marks in the Kángra and Bashahr divisions, and much labour will be required to put them right. In Multán too there is much redemarcation to be done in the Mailsi Range. It is feared that in the province generally the demarcation question requires considerable attention in order that it may be brought into a satisfactory state.

Surveys.

102. A boundary survey of 365 miles was made in the Pabar range of the Bashahr division on the 4″ scale. There are now 4,805 square miles of forests remaining unsurveyed in the province, of which the greater part cannot be taken up until it has been decided what area is to be abandoned for the new irrigation colonies, while the rest is not of sufficient importance to require a detailed survey.

Forest offences.

103. The number of forest offences is 9 per cent. above the average of the last three years, the increase being mainly in illegal fellings and removals of forest produce, and in grazing offences. It is probably correct to ascribe this increase in part at any rate to the extension of cultivation that accompanies the growing prosperity of the country and to improved supervision. Considering the temptations that exist for the fabrication of false cases by the subordinate staff, the percentage (81) of convictions is high and appears to indicate careful supervision over prosecutions.

Protection from fire.

104. The area which the department attempted to protect rose by 32,605 acres to 587,945 acres. Of this only 2,820 acres were burnt over, the percentage of failures thus being 0·48 as compared with 3·72 in the previous year. The total cost of protection was Rs. 5,046 against Rs. 4,821 in 1905-06, and the cost per square mile successfully protected was Rs. 5-8-4 as against Rs. 5-12-0 last year. Of the total sum spent, Rs. 2,351 was devoted to the clearing of fire-lines and Rs. 2,695 to the pay of fire-watchers. The successful results attained are unquestionably due rather to the favourable season, which was a very wet one with much snow in the early spring and rain during April and May, than to improved protective arrangements.

Protection from cattle.

105. The difficulty of protecting forests from damage by agricultural animals is increasing owing to the growing profits of pastoral farming. Flocks of sheep and goats have largely increased, and it will be no simple matter to strike a fair balance between the immediate interests of the people on the one hand and those of forest conservancy on the other.

Protection against injuries from natural causes.

106. Locusts did considerable damage in the Ráwalpindi, Jhelum, Chenab, Shahpur, and Multán divisions. In Jhelum the only tree which they did not attack was the *Melia Azedarack*. In Ráwalpindi the ***Pinus excelsa*** has been dying in a very sudden manner, it is believed, on account of an insect attack, but this does not seem to be certain; four insects which may be responsible have been sent to Dehra Dún for identification. In Kulu it has been ascertained that the fungus which is killing the deodar poles near Monali, and which has now been noticed in Rupi and elsewhere, does not spread from the young shoots, so that it is probably a root disease. Further observations are being made, and the trees attacked are being removed A fungus has also been found to attack the deodar in Bashahr, and it may be that this is similar to that which has appeared in Kulu. The *Trametes pini* appears to be spreading in the Simla hills, having been noticed even in the catchment-area forest in Simla. It is being cut out there, but it is a difficult thing to deal with in the Native States. So far as the Kot Khái forests are concerned, no action has been taken, from a mistaken view of the situation; but the trees will now be cut out, observations being made in order to ascertain to what distance the disease spreads from infected trees. The mulberry defoliator continued to do much damage in Chánga Mánga as did that of the sissu tree until the first rain fell.

Sylviculture.

107. The efforts previously reported of trying to improve the reproduction of deodar by breaking up the soil continue to be attended with success in Bashahr, and to some extent in Chamba also; this system seems to be suitable to those forests in which the seeds are prevented by a layer of undecomposed

vegetable matter from germinating sufficiently near the mineral soil. Eucalyptus has been found unable to stand the cold of Simla or to bear the weight of snow in the hill divisions. The attempt to grow English fruit in Bashahr has almost entirely failed.

108. It is satisfactory to remark that the share in the exploitation of forest produce taken by the department has declined. Only 11 per cent. of the timber and 47 per cent. of the fuel cut was dealt with by departmental agency in the past year. The total timber outturn fell nominally by 52 per cent. as compared with the preceding year, but the registration of fellings in Chamba was defective. The other reasons given for the fall are scarcity of labour and the consequent failure of purchasers to remove timber sold in Bashahr, and the cessation of earthquake relief work. Increased imports of Australian and other woods used for sleepers have also had their effect, and there is reason to suspect that inferior imported woods are being passed off as deodar. The fuel outturn decreased by 18 per cent. owing to the want of animal transport in the Multán division, the shortage of railway wagons for removal of the produce of Chánga Mánga, and the decline in the demand for wood fuel, which is being gradually superseded by coal in many directions. The large railway and canal works in progress in the Multán division should revive the demand for fuel for brick-making in the current year. Exploitation.

109. The income of the department has declined by 12 per cent. and now stands at Rs. 15,65,000 This is a necessary result of the decrease of production already noticed. In Kulu there was the additional reason that owing to the low state of the Beas the amount of timber in transit was much larger than usual. Expenditure also has decreased. It amounts to Rs. 11,57,429 or about 9 per cent. less than last year. The chief reasons for this fall are the withdrawal of the department from the work of exploitation and the smaller payment made to the Raja of Chamba. The net result is that the profits of year, Rs. 4,07,571, are less than those of 1905-06 by Rs. 1,03,131. The Conservator anticipates a further fall in receipts from sale of timber for a few years to come owing to the competition of Australian sleepers and the dishonest practice already alluded to of mixing inferior woods with deodar, to which may be added the probable decline in the demand for wood as fuel owing to the competition of coal. With the probability that the rate of wages will continue to be high in the Punjab for some years to come, it is inevitable that the provincial surplus will show a further decline in the immediate future. Financial results.

31. Mines and Quarries.

110 Small quantities of gold to the value of about Rs. 11,000 were obtained from washings in the Indus, Jhelum, and Sutlej, where they issue from the hills. Gold.

111. There were eleven coal mines working in the province, which employed 2,522 persons and produced 73,119 tons of coal as compared with 62,622 tons last year. The only mine of any importance is that worked by the North-Western Railway at Dhandot in the Jhelum district. This yielded 43,662 tons of coal. Although a small loss is shown in the working of the second part of the year, this is only a nominal book loss due to the low rate of issue, and the working was profitable to the railway. Coal.

112. The mines and quarries in the Shahpur, Jhelum and Miánwáli districts produced 118,023 tons of salt and employed on the average 1,170 persons daily. Salt.

113. One thousand tons of limestone were extracted in the Hoshiárpur district and 2,173 tons of slate in the Gurgaon district. Limestone and slate.

32. Manufactories.

114. There are now 235 factories registered under the Act as compared with 225 last year and 191 in 1904. Of the total, 15 are Government factories and the rest private. There has been an increase of 4 cotton-ginning factories in Ferozepore and of 6 in Multán. Forty-eight of these factories Large industries.

remained closed during the year, most of them being cotton gins and presses, which could not obtain enough raw material owing to the failure of the crop in two successive years. In the Lyallpur district matters were especially bad, for there 18 out of 22 ginning factories remained closed. The 4 which remained open shared profits with those which were closed. There were some factories at work during the year which are not included in the returns, as a factory cannot be registered until it has worked four months in one year. There has been a slight falling off in the number of operatives employed: the most marked decrease is in Lahore, where the workmen were less by 700 than in 1905.

General condition of factories.

115. Fifty-six factories were inspected once, 48 factories twice, and 60 factories more than twice during the year. Of the 71 factories which were not inspected at all, 48 were closed throughout the year, so that only 23 factories, which ought to have been inspected, were neglected, and most of these were at work for only a short period at the end of the year. The Director of Land Records and his two Personal Assistants were appointed Inspectors of Factories and they visited 18 factories. The sanitary conditions of factories are generally reported to be satisfactory, the water-supply sufficient and the ventilation adequate. The health of the operatives is good. The wages are higher than those earned by the agricultural labourer and the workers are content with their condition. Of the 26,875 persons employed 3,395 were women and 1,150 children. From four districts infringements of the law regarding women and children are reported. There were three prosecutions under the Act. As against 242 in 1905, 279 accidents occurred, of which 9 were fatal and 32 serious.

The factories labour committee visited Delhi from the 18th to the 21st February 1907. All the mills were inspected and the evidence of operatives, millowners, managers and workers taken. Definite suggestions were made in the report as to inspection and more especially medical inspection, certificates, hours of labour, the improvement of the homes and home surroundings of the mill hands, and the securing of uniformity of administration of the Factory Act throughout India.

Carpet making.

116. An interesting monograph on carpet making in the province has been written by Mr. Latimer, Assistant Commissioner. It shows that in 1897-98, when a separate head was first given by the Government of India in the trade figures for Punjab carpets and rugs, the values in exports were Rs. 3,10,275, and, for inter-provincial trade, Rs. 77,050. The output for export increased with enormous rapidity, and the increase was practically all in the Amritsar trade, till the figures for exports reached in the year 1899-1900 the sum of Rs. 8,56,740. In the two following years the trade increased; the number of maunds exported went up to 5,670. Not only had the existing firms at Amritsar increased their output, but new factories sprang into existence. This sudden extension of trade was unnatural; it coincided with the production of much inferior work, and the trade has now shrunk to very much smaller proportions. The last figures available show exports from the province at Rs. 5,03,982. The causes of the fall are probably to be found in the fact that bad workmanship was found out, that the market was flooded, and that many of the manufacturers lost large sums in advances to their employees. Whatever the causes, the result has been that the number of manufacturers in Amritsar has decreased, and that their output has decreased in an even greater degree. The carpet trade in that city—almost entirely an export one—seems now, however, to be stable; it is to be hoped at any rate that it has reached a natural and secure position. Several of the firms are expanding by opening branch factories, though this represents to some extent not so much a real expansion as the desire to find cheaper labour. In taste the work has probably improved during the past few years, and it is certainly not worse in this respect than when the weaving of carpets of Persian design was revived by the jails. The internal trade of the province has been almost stationary since the time when first it was separately recorded, and the evidence which would suggest that the carpets made for a local market have seriously deteriorated either in quality or taste is

probably, as far as the Punjab is concerned, of little weight. It must be admitted, however, that the introduction of aniline dyes has been an evil, though perhaps not an unmixed one. In fact, if we frankly recognise the trade for what it is, there seems to be no ground for sentimental lamentation, still less for denunciation. The era of great productions has gone by, because the circumstances that made them possible have gone too. In the Punjab, as in Persia, that era was an era of patronage, and when it passed, the industry it had fostered dwindled to insignificant proportions. The jails have given it fresh vitality under a modern form, with the public instead of a patron to support it, and we should rather be thankful to have it in any guise than complain that it has not been revived in a form which from the nature of things was impossible. Its future as an art industry rests mainly in the hands of the public. The Government of India was asked some years ago to intervene to prevent the use of aniline dyes, and the Government of the United States of America has interfered by prohibiting the import of jail made carpets. In point of fact it is not such intervention that is desirable. Any action by Government should be an extension of that already taken in this country, the foundation of schools of art and the careful supervision of the industry in the jails. In this way it is possible to ensure that at least somewhere in the country good materials shall be woven into suitable designs. If, after all, the public will not have them, Government can do nothing beyond.

33. Trade.

TRADE WITH OTHER PROVINCES AND STATES IN INDIA.

117. The report is a triennial one. Excluding animals and treasure the total volume of trade is shown in the following table :— Total trade.

Year.	Imports.		Exports.	
	Maunds.	Value in rupees.	Maunds.	Value in rupees.
1904-05	24,402,169	17,41,60,637	52,648,111	18,65,51,449
1905-06	34,265,921	22,08,16,773	43,175,245	18,36,15,749
1906-07	28,696,430	22,37,04,458	54,837,968	21,83,30,406

The figures for exports reflect the agricultural conditions of the years, the poor crops of 1905 being marked in the decline in the middle year and the excellent crops of 1906 being followed by record exports. The increase of 29 lakhs in the value of the imports is very satisfactory as it has been obtained notwithstanding the slackening of the abnormal imports of sugar which in 1905-06 were 75 lakhs of rupees above the imports of the year under report. Increases in the consumption of piece-goods, apparel, gunny-bags, ghi and kerosine oil all point to increased purchasing power in the people. The fall in the weight of the imports is of little account as it occurs chiefly in bulky goods, such as coal (—12 lakhs of maunds) and railway materials (—18 lakhs of maunds). If we compare the total trade of the three years under report with that of the preceding triennium we find that there has been an increase in weight of 49 per cent. in

exports and of 29 per cent. in imports and in value of 39 per cent. in exports and 34 per cent. in imports. The traffic in "Grain and Pulse" by rail and river is shown in the following table :—

Year.	Imports.		Exports.	
	Maunds.	Value in rupees.	Maunds.	Value in rupees.
1904-05	1,193,688	37,02,575	42,284,271	9,35,57,701
1905-06	1,887,188	66,58,215	33,221,977	9,17,15,269
1906-07	1,281,101	46,47,519	44,612,716	11,99,50,437

These figures merely emphasize the fact that the Punjab export trade is mainly one of food-grains and that a prosperous year brings a reduction in the import of food stuffs.

Trade in animals and treasure.

118. The trade in animals shews a slight decrease in both exports and imports, but the only important detail is the falling-off in the number of horses brought from Bombay. The imports of treasure are less by about 50 lakhs and the exports by about 40 lakhs than in the preceding year. The total figures for treasure are—

	Rs.
Imports	3,38,94,394
Exports	1,44,81,652

Thus, as was to be expected in a year of good exports of grain, the imports of treasure far exceed the exports, but it is curious that compared with last year the imports should have fallen more than the exports, even though the excess of imports (other than treasure) over exports is less than in 1905-06.

River-borne trade.

119. The following table shows the weight and value of the river-borne trade of the Punjab for the last three years :—

Year.	Imports.		Exports.	
	Maunds.	Value in rupees.	Maunds.	Value in rupees.
1904-05	134,880	9,79,863	1,761,429	45,23,770
1905-06	162,910	11,06,501	1,494,376	51,45,064
1906-07	166,090	11,38,647	1,617,683	49,78,591

The river seems to be able to hold its own in competition with the railway so far as heavy and bulky goods are concerned.

Details of imports.

120. The imports of "apparel," of which two-thirds come from the United Provinces and one-third from the sea-ports, are leaping up and are now valued at 103 lakhs of rupees, whereas at the end of the last triennium they were worth only 58 lakhs. The increase is continuous and is a sign of the rise in the standard of comfort. European cotton piece-goods have fallen off by $5\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs, whereas Indian piece-goods have advanced by about 50 lakhs of rupees. The price of the European goods was unusually high and this fact, aided by the Swadeshi movement, turned popular favour to the country-made goods. The same explanation may probably be given of the increase of $7\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs in the imports of Indian twist and yarn. Gunny-bags gained by $17\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs of rupees, as they were required for the brisk export of grain. Metals under the sub-heads of

"Iron and Steel" shew an extraordinary increase of 100 lakhs of rupees, which is due partly to a revised classification but also to increased imports of machinery and possibly of enamel and other hardware, which is becoming more and more popular and ousting from household use articles of brass and copper, of which the prices are steadily rising. This rise of price has resulted in a considerable decrease in the imports of both these metals. The imports of oilseeds in 1904-05 were worth 23 lakhs of rupees, in 1905-06, 63 lakhs and in the present year 94 lakhs. Most of these enormously increased imports are of castor, linseed, til and "others" from the United Provinces and from Rájpútána, and are partly due to the failure of the til crop in the Punjab. There is no increase in the export of oils, so whatever the reason of these large imports the oilseeds seem to be for local consumption and not for pressing and re-export.

The most marked decreases are in coal and coke (—12 lakhs of maunds) due to the closure of most of the cotton-ginning factories for want of cotton and to the great rise in the price of Bengal coal, of leather (—11 lakhs of rupees) probably owing to the high prices, of liquors (—7 lakhs of rupees) the sales of which have declined throughout India owing to enhanced duties and the successful competition of country liquor, and of 71 lakhs in railway materials owing to the opening of several lines which had recently been completed and the subsequent lull in further construction. The imports of sugar have fallen by 75 lakhs of rupees, but are still about 65 lakhs above those of 1904-05 : satisfactory as the last cane crop was it came on the market at the end of the year and the competition of cheap imported sugar was strong. The imports of raw cotton from the United Provinces fell off by 22 lakhs of rupees after the very high imports of last year : they still amount to 4½ lakhs of maunds against 27 housand maunds at the end of the last triennium and 56 thousand maunds in 1904-05. Raw wool fell off by 5¼ lakhs owing to the high prices prevailing.

Details of exports.

121. The most important fluctuations in exports are the increases in agricultural produce. The value of the exports of wheat increased by 136 lakhs, of gram and pulse by 156 lakhs, of rape and mustard by 16¼ lakhs, of other oilseeds by 20½ lakhs, and of sugar by 10 lakhs of rupees. The wheat crop of 1906 was the largest on record, but the exports, though they were 68 lakhs of maunds more than in 1905-06, were still 45 lakhs of maunds below those of 1904-05; the causes of this comparatively unfavourable result were partly low prices in Europe and stagnation in the export trade and partly want of rolling stock to move the grain to the sea-ports. The exports of European woollen piece-goods nearly doubled (+ 6½ lakhs of rupees), whereas Indian woollen piece-goods declined by 1¾ lakhs; the trade in European goods is almost entirely confined to Delhi, which exports to the United Provinces; as regards the Indian goods the decrease seems to shew that the shawl trade of Amritsar and elsewhere has not progressed during the year During the trade year portions of two cotton crops are on the market. The crop picked in 1905-06 was spoiled by boll-worm, the crop of 1906-07 was good and exceeded that of all preceding years except 1904-05. Exports accordingly recovered to a certain extent, and in weight are half a lakh above those of the preceding year, but owing to the fall in prices in the latter half of the year the value of the exports is 3½ lakhs below that of 1905-06 and 55 lakhs below that of 1904-05. Hides and skins, notwithstanding high prices and a strong foreign demand, shew a small decrease, but the exports are still over 4 lakhs of maunds, whereas prior to 1905-06 they had never exceeded 2¼ lakhs. There is a marked decrease (—5¼ lakhs of rupees) in the export of raw wool from the Cis-Sutlej Territory to Karáchi and Bombay. This is curious, as the European demand was strong and prices good.

Distribution of trade.

122. Karáchi continues to be the port of the Punjab, and her share of the total exports of the province was 41 per cent. This is not so large a share as at the end of the last triennium, when the percentage was 54. The competition does not appear to be so much between Karáchi and Bombay as between Karáchi and the United Provinces and, to a certain extent, Calcutta. As regards imports, Karáchi improves her position year by year, and is now the source or channel of 40 per cent. of the trade. She is thus displacing Bombay, whose share in the imports has fallen from 17 per cent. to 15 and 13½ per cent.

during the three years. The second place is held by the United Provinces, which have recovered from the low percentages of 22 and 19 in 1903-04 and 1904-05 and in the last two years have sent the Punjab 27 and 25½ per cent. of her imports. As between the various blocks of the Punjab 46 per cent. of the exports go from the territory between the Sutlej and the Jhelum, which includes both the great grain-producing canal colonies, but this block takes only 37 per cent of the imports and has to yield first place to the richer and more advanced tract Cis-Sutlej. The Cis-Sutlej tract sends out 40 per cent. of the exports and takes 41 per cent. of the imports. Delhi city is a great consumer and takes 12 per cent. of the imports, but most of her sales are retail and she has no more than 4 per cent. of the exports. The trade of the other 3 blocks is insignificant.

TRADE WITH TRANS-FRONTIER COUNTRIES.

General.

123. The separation of the North-West Frontier Province has reduced the volume of the external trade of the Punjab to insignificant dimensions. In accordance with the recommendations of the Committee of 1905 on Indian Trade Statistics, Kashmír trade will henceforward be excluded from the external trade report, thus further decreasing the importance of the present return. The question whether the trade with Ladákh and Central Asia *viâ* Kulu, which is already registered at Leh, should be registered also in Kulu has recently been under the consideration of Government. It is not easy to ascertain in British India the ultimate source or destination of such trade, and, as the figures can already be obtained from the Kashmír Darbár, it is questionable whether any good purpose is served by a second record of them in Punjab territory. On the other hand, as trade with Tibet *viâ* the Spiti route has in any case to be registered in Kulu, the registration of Ladákh and Central Asian trade can also be done there without any additional cost, and as a comparison of the Leh and Kulu figures may be of some use, it has been decided to continue registering at Sultánpur. A recent representation from the administration of Balúchistán has led to a re-opening of the question of the registration of trade with Afghánistán which was abandoned on January 1st, 1907. It now appears that such trade passes from Khar (the abandoned post) in the Punjab through Zhob and across Toba in Peshín, thus evading registration in the Agency.

Growth of trade.

124. The figures collected under the existing system of registration provide the following comparison between the trade of the last triennium with that preceding it :—

	Average annual value of trade excluding treasure.				
	Afghánistán.	Kashmír.	Ladákh.	Chinese Tibet.	Total.
Imports from—	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1901-02 to 1903-04	38,816	1,01,07,286	6,79,585	2,26,946	1,10,47,633
1904-05 to 1906-07	31,497	1,29,47,690	7,48,168	1,23,620	1,38,50,975
Exports to—					
1901-02 to 1903-04	37,627	89,24,425	2,87,650	48,219	92,97,921
1904-05 to 1906-07	82,613	80,55,587	1,66,015	46,990	83,51,205

They indicate a general increase of more than 10 per cent. in volume, but in the present uncertainty regarding the accuracy of the distribution of the registered trade between the various external areas mentioned, an examination of the detailed heads does not supply any very satisfactory information.

In the three years the exports excluding treasure have steadily grown in value from 72 lakhs of rupees in 1904-05 to 85 lakhs in the next year and to 92 lakhs in 1906-07. Cotton piece-goods (European and Indian), fruits (all other kinds), brass and copper, iron, salt, refined sugar, Indian black tea and

tobacco are the chief articles of exports. In Kashmír at any rate the Swadeshi movement does not seem to have deterred the people from increased consumption of European cloth and refined sugar. As regards imports the value was in 1904-05 110 lakhs of rupees, in 1905-06 133 lakhs and in the year just closed 171 lakhs of rupees. The most important commodities are charas, fruits ghi, hides and skins, raw silk, stone and marble, timber and manufactured woollen piece-goods. There is a large decrease under wheat. General good times and a lull in plague probably account for the increases in the two latter years. The severe plague epidemic of this spring will be evident in the figures of the current year.

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.

125. The number of companies having capital divided into shares has risen from 68 in the past year to 87 at the close of the year under report. Twenty-five new companies were formed, whilst six ceased to work. The new companies were for the most part registered in the first six months of the year. Seven of the new ventures are banks, two seem to have money-lending as their chief object, two are life insurance companies, one is a motor transport company, one is for the promotion of handloom weaving, four are cotton mills, and the others are miscellaneous mills and trading companies. Generally speaking the new companies have much more definite objects than the very nondescript associations registered in 1905-06. **Number of Companies.**

Six companies were wound up. Of these three had not started work, and had no paid-up capital; of the other three, one had incurred preliminary expenses only; the Bhárat General Trading Company had done some trading, and the National Silk and Woollen Mills, although they had erected no mills, seem to have done some buying and selling of goods. There are five other companies in course of liquidation.

126. The nominal capital of all companies has risen from 203 to 285 lakhs, and the paid-up capital from 106 to 116 lakhs of rupees. The largest increases in paid-up capital are found in the case of the banks (Rs. 2,36,108), the Punjab Cotton Press Company (Rs. 2,62,597), and the Ganesh Flour Mills, Delhi (Rs. 1,49,900). Most of the new companies have not yet reported their paid-up capital. **Capital.**

127. The prosecution of the officials of the Suburban Mills Company referred to last year was unsuccessful, but an appeal is pending in the Chief Court. The Indrapastha Trading Company was convicted once under section 50 of the Act, and measures have been taken for the institution of another case against it, as punishment has not served to produce the punctual submission of returns. **Prosecutions.**

34. Public Works.

128. The total outlay for the year amounted to Rs. 64,36,725 under the following main heads :— **Expenditure.**

	Rs.
Imperial Military Works	3,79,082
Imperial Civil Works	6,94,693
Provincial Works	47,86,330
Incorporated Local Works	3,160
Contribution Works (including local loans)	5,73,460
	64,36,725

These figures exclude a sum of Rs. 69,999 expended by the Department on Famine Relief Works, and Rs. 22,061 expended by District Officers on acquiring land for the Southern Punjab and Amritsar-Tarn Táran-Patti Railways.

Chapter IV.
PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

Imperial military works.

129. The most important item under Imperial military works was the construction of several buildings at the Remount Depôt in Sargodha at a cost of nearly one lakh of rupees. The addition of a third storey to the Central Library at Simla was put in hand and half completed.

Imperial civil works.

130. The total outlay on works was Rs. 4,07,751 and on repairs Rs. 1,99,429. At Kasauli, additions and alterations to Ranbir Villa to adapt it for use as a Central Research Institute were completed at a cost of Rs. 59,400 including a water-supply to the building. Alterations and improvements were carried out at Simla. The most important work in progress was the new office for the Accountant-General at Lahore.

Provincial civil works—Buildings.

131. The Public Works Secretariat offices at Lahore which were commenced in the previous year were built up to roof level. The total expenditure was over 2 lakhs. New tahsils were constructed at Sargodha, Pálampur and Kángra, the latter being a temporary structure. A new record-room was built in Ambála. An office for the Commissioner was completed at Delhi, and offices for the Settlement Officers were constructed at Rohtak and Hissar. At Miánwáli the O'Brien High School was completed and a leper ward was added near the main jail buildings. At Simla the work in connection with the rebuilding of Bishop Cotton School was nearly completed and the school has since been fully re-opened. The district jail at Campbellpur was finished. Several new police stations were put in hand. The work on the construction of the Agricultural College at Lyallpur was in progress.

Roads.

132. The provincial outlay on works amounted to Rs. 6,11,832 and on repairs to Rs. 9,91,707.

The figures for the three preceding years were—

	Works.	*Repairs.*
	Rs.	Rs.
1903-04	3,98,246	9,04,872
1904-05	4,74,864	8,99,088
1905-06	5,02,490	10,90,724

A five-year programme for the construction of new feeder roads to railways was drawn up by a committee during the year. It was estimated that the total mileage which could be undertaken in any one year, with the existing staff, would cost six lakhs of rupees, and it was decided to meet this sum in equal shares from Provincial and District funds instead of wholly from Provincial funds as heretofore. About four lakhs were expended on new feeder roads during the year and the increase of Rs. 1,10,000 over the outlay of the previous year on new roads is mainly due to this cause.

Progress on the feeder roads in the Jhelum and Chenab Colonies was checked by slow delivery of metal due to short supply of trucks on the North-Western Railway. It is probable that trucks for the carriage of road metal will have to be bought in England, for the quantity of metal to be moved by rail is far greater now than it was formerly, owing to local kankar quarries having become exhausted. In the Ambála district, the Barára-Kala-Amb Road was completed. The maintenance only (disregarding that of the previous year, which was abnormally heavy owing to repairs on roads and bridges in Kángra and Kulu after the earthquake) shewed an increase of nearly one lakh of rupees over the average, and it is more than probable that this charge will continue to increase quickly because not only is the road mileage increasing yearly, but the rates of labour have already gone up 30 to 40 per cent. and are still rising.

Miscellaneous public improvements.

133. The Sargodha water-works were opened during the year. At Ludhiána good progress was made with the water-works, which are estimated to cost over four lakhs of rupees. In various towns drains were completed; but, although great improvements have been made during the last four years in the street drains of large towns, it is doubtful whether the inhabitants appreciate them. Good drains cannot be a success, without daily flushing and efficient scavenging, and municipal committees are apt to cut down expenditure on this sort of establishment, with the result that full beneficial effect of the sanitary works carried out, is lost.

Dera Ghazi Khan protective works.

134. At Dera Gházi Khan, further protective measures, on a small scale, were necessary. The bay, above the northern end of the stone bund, remained open with the river sweeping right through it and erosion continued, more or less, all through the cold weather of 1906-07. The position was considered so critical that a stone apron was laid on he reverse slope of the nose and subsidence at the head of the bund itself was made good. These measures have for the time proved successful.

Famine relief works.

135 The famine relief works which came into the financial year were described in last year's Administration Report. It is unnecessary to notice them again.

RAILWAYS.

Kalka-Simla Railway.

136. On the 1st January 1906 the Kálka-Simla Railway was purchased and the line was worked under the direct orders of the Railway Board up to the 31st December 1906. It was made over to the North-Western State Railway Administration with effect from the 1st January 1907. Between the 28th of June and the 16th of September 1906 considerable and serious damage was done to this railway owing to an abnormal monsoon. There were innumerable landslips, the line was washed away or subsided in many places, and traffic was suspended for 36 days.

North-Western Railway.

137. The following mileage was opened during the year:—

	Mileage.
Shorkot Road to Sargodha	103·14
Amritsar to Tarn Táran	14·2
Tarn Táran to Patti	13·29
McLeod Ganj Road to Ferozepore city	78

Of these the first only is on the North-Western Railway proper. The remaining additions are on the Amritsar-Patti and the Southern Punjab Railways, which are both worked on contract by the North-Western Railway.

The year was a most successful one. 33,508,000 passengers were carried or an advance of $3\frac{1}{2}$ millions in the previous year. 7,50,000 tons more goods were carried. The net earnings rose from Rs. 3,17,13,000 to 3,25,80,000, and although the percentage of working expenses to gross earnings rose slightly on the commercial section, there was a marked decrease on the military section where the earnings now all but equal the expenses.

The following surveys were completed:—

	Miles.
From Jhang *viá* Chiniot to Sángla	74·4
From Patiála to Jakhal	54·35
From Khánpur to Chachran	23·27

all on the 5′ 6″ gauge.

The following surveys were in progress:—

	Miles.
Patti to Lodhrán	242
Dhák to Katha	10
The Jullundur Doáb group of railways	122

all on the 5′ 6″ gauge.

As an experimental measure, the running of a steam coach on th Wazírabád-Siálkot Branch was introduced in March.

35. Irrigation.

General.

138. The canals in the province show the following results for 1906-07:—

I.—Canals in operation classed as Productive.

Major Works.

		Rs.	Rs.
Capital expenditure during year.	Direct charges		9,38,029
	Indirect charges		26,802
	Total		9,64,831
The capital invested to end of 1906-07 amounted to ...			11,11,16,550
Income from all sources, *less* refunds			2,21,75,797
Working expenses			69,78,097
Balance excess revenue, being 13·68 per cent. on Rs. 11,11,16,550			1,51,97,700
Interest—			
at 4 per cent. on Rs. 8,84,06,769 outlay to end of March 1900		35 36,271	
at $3\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. on subsequent outlay ...		6,86,079	
			42,22.350
Net profit after paying interest			1,09,75,350
Ditto ditto in 1905-06			79,16,385
Ditto ditto in 1904-05			92,51,813

II.—Imperial Canals, Minor Works not classed as Productive.

The capital outlay to the close of 1906-07 amounted to Rs. 5,59,235. A small expenditure of Rs. 76 only was incurred during the year on the Ghaggar Inundation Canals.

	Rs.
The income from all sources *less* refunds amounted to ...	15,87,342
Working expenses	9,35,511
Balance profit	6,51,831
Ditto in 1905-06	4,30,187
Ditto in 1904-05	5,05,932

III.—Provincial Canals.

There are only two Provincial Canals in operation, *viz.*, the Shahpur Provincial Canals and the Ravi Inundation Canals.

	Rs.
The income from all sources amounted to	84,028
Working expenses	48,401
Balance profit	35,627
Ditto in 1905-06	4,918
Ditto in 1904-05	29,653

The total area irrigated by Major Works was 5,902,995 acres as compared with 5,821,096, the average of the preceding three years. The total area irrigated by Minor Works was 803,317 acres as compared with 715,945. Matters of interest relating to each canal are noticed below.

Western Jumna Canal.

139. The total irrigated area during 1906-07 was a little less than in 1905-06 which was a record year. The total rainfall in almost all the districts in this circle during the autumn crop was copious, while during the spring crop the rainfall was below the records of the corresponding crop of the previous year except in the Ambála and Rohtak districts. Remissions of the demand aggregating Rs. 20,526 were given, being 0·66 per cent. on the gross direct receipts and 1·02 per cent. on the net income. The canal was twice closed for a total period of 33 days on account of cessation of demand owing to rain.

Upper Bari Doab Canal.

140. The maximum river flood during the year occurred on the 16th September 1906 and recorded 27·5 on the Mukesar gauge, for which the highest reading yet obtained was 30 (recorded on the 16th August 1900). Extensive repairs were found necessary to the Training Works in the river, most of which have been carried out. Irrigation has been developing on all the new systems in the 3rd Division, such as Rakh Distributary, Hunjrah Branch, and Thatta Balayara Minor of the Vahn Distributary, Zaffarke and Bhoa Asal Minors, and Kahna Distributary extensions and Ghannakar Minor. Detailed estimates for the extension of the Niáz Beg Distributary have been worked out. A metalled road has been made along the right bank of the canal in the neighbourhood of Lahore for the use of the residents of that town. Proposals are under consideration for thoroughly remodelling the system of irrigation round Lahore, the Lahore city and in the Lahore civil station. Similar proposals have been received for remodelling all the distributaries on the Main Branch Upper and Main Branch Lower in the 2nd Division, Upper Bari Doab Canal.

Sirhind Canal.

141. The autumn rainfall was good and well distributed and up to the average except in the Native States. The spring fall was bountiful everywhere, and even excessive at the close of the season. The late gram suffered on this account, and the promise of a magnificent wheat crop was marred in some measure, the quality of the grain and straw deteriorating under the influence of cloudy and wet weather during the reaping season. The canal was closed for 46 days during the year at different times when necessity arose for so doing. The remarkable persistency of river floods during August called for frequent closures to avoid excess of silt deposit in the channel, and this was very troublesome at times when demand was keen. The silt in the Main Line was kept well within satisfactory limits. The rotational system of distribution of supply was begun in November and worked well throughout the season. Great progress was made in remodelling all distributary channels and their outlets, and, broadly speaking, the cultivators are beginning to recognise the merits of the system of conserving water in bulk for rapid distribution.

Lower Chenab Canal.

142. The most noticeable feature of the year was the partial failure of the cotton crop in nearly 150,000 acres and the extensive damage to the wheat, gram and coriander crops in 500,000 acres. The partial failure of the autumn (cotton) crop greatly affected the revenue of the year; that of the spring will affect the revenue next year, as the collections on account of that crop will be credited in the accounts for 1907-08. In view of the fact that the area assessed is unfortunately so nearly equal to the minimum area proposed to be irrigated by the canal, it is interesting to calculate the percentage of profit by assessments in this, which it is hoped, is the least profitable year:—

	Rs.
Gross revenue assessed	71,23,013
Deduct remissions granted after submission of Demand Statements on 27,477 acres	1,47,273
Revenue actually assessed	69,75,740
Deduct working expenses	19,61,473
Net revenue based on assessments	50,14,267

This net revenue is 17·7 per cent. on the capital expenditure of Rs. 2,82,27,748. The total area of Crown waste land now allotted is 1,822,444 acres. The area classed as allottable is 1,927,305 acres.

Lower Jhelum Canal.

143. The highest flood in the Jhelum during the year occurred on the 15th 16th September 1906, when the Rasul standard guage read 712·60, which was 3·1 lower than in the great flood of 12th September 1905. The raising by 2 feet of the shutters in Bays 1 and 2 of the weir was completed in February 1907, and the shutters in Bays 3 and 4 will be similarly raised in the cold weather of 1907-08. A heavy flood came down the Chenab River on the 16th—18th September 1906, when the Riasi guage registered 24·0. This was 0·3 higher than the highest flood on record (which occurred on the 12th September 1905). No damage was done to the Upper Marginal Bund and the Lower Marginal Bund also held very well, with the exception of two small breaches by which no damage was done to crops or channels. It is now hoped that these two bunds, with ordinary maintenance, are sufficiently strong to withstand any floods in future.

Upper Chenab and Upper Jhelum Canals.

144. Work was in progress during the year on both these new Major Works. On the former Rs. 37,41,461 were spent and on the latter Rs. 27,74,312. All the heavy plant ordered from England arrived by the end of the year. Indents for rolling stock were sent to the India Office. The heavy rainfall at the end of August caused intense floods in most of the torrents, and the continuous rain during the cold weather and the severe outbreak of plague demoralised the labour supply generally.

Lower Bari Doab Canal.

145. The Lower Bari Doab Canal Circle was opened on the 11th October 1905 with head-quarters at Lahore. The 2nd Division was constituted on the 15th October 1906 and the 3rd on the 29th November 1906, with head-quarters of both at Montgomery. Boring operations were carried out at various sites on the river with a view to fixing a site for the Ravi Crossing.

Inundation Canals.

146. Owing to the plentiful supply of water the inundation canals worked splendidly throughout the year. The results can best be judged by looking at the results in the shape of collections. On the Upper Sutlej the profit was equivalent to 20 per cent. on the capital outlay as compared with 4·8 last year. The Sidhnái Canal yielded 27 per cent. The Indus Inundation 5·21 as compared with 5·79. On the Lower Sutlej the profit was 2·65 lakhs as against 1·51. The Shahpur Provincial and Imperial Canals both showed double the collections. On the Muzaffargarh Inundation Canals a very heavy flood in July did considerable damage.

CHAPTER V.

REVENUE AND FINANCE.

[Detailed information on the subject dealt with in this chapter will be found in the following publications :—

(*a*)—DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS.

Land Revenue.—Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Punjab for the agricultural year ending 30th September 1906.

Canal Revenue.—Revenue Report of the Irrigation Department, Punjab, for the year 1906-07.

Excise and Opium.—Report on the Excise Administration of the Punjab for the year 1906-07.

Salt.—Report on the Administration of the Northern India Salt Revenue Department for the official year 1906-07.

Stamps.—Note on the Stamp Statements of the Punjab for the year 1906-07.

Income Tax.—Punjab Income Tax Report for 1906-07.

Forests—Progress Report on Forest Administration in the Punjab for 1906-07.

Local Funds.—Review of the Accounts and Administration of District Boards in the Punjab for the year 1906-07.

Municipal Revenues.—Report on the working of Municipalities in the Punjab during the year 1906-07.

(*b*)—FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL STATISTICS OF BRITISH INDIA, THIRTEENTH ISSUE.

Stamps.—Tables VIII 22 to 24.

(*c*)—FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL STATISTICS OF BRITISH INDIA, FOURTEENTH ISSUE.

Salt.—Tables III 11 and 12.

Excise.—Table V 12.

Income Tax.—Table VIII 2, 3, 8 and 9.]

36. Gross Revenue and Expenditure.

147. In the following statements for the year ending March 31st, 1907, the income and expenditure of the Railways, Post Office, and Telegraph Departments and Military expenditure and Capital expenditure on Canals are omitted. **General.**

148. The revenue raised in the Province during 1906-07 is made up as follows, last year's figures being quoted for comparison :— **Reveuue.**

SOURCES OF REVENUE.	1905-06.	1906-07.
	Lakhs of rupees.	
Land Revenue ...	2,41·53	2,71·85
Irrigation (excluding land revenue due to canals) ...	* 1,85·71	2,20·37
Salt ...	47·02	41·40
Local Rates ...	42·90	27·03
Stamps ...	39·76	40·48
Excise and Opium ...	35·65	40·73
Income Tax ...	12·38	13·32
Forests ...	17·82	16·05
Police ...	6·94	6·86
Civil Works ...	6·64	8·48
Interest ...	3·50	3·67
Law and Justice ...	3·44	3·60
Tribute ...	3·02	2·77
Registration ...	2·59	2·73
Jails ...	1·86	1·94
Education ...	3·57	3·78
All other items ...	11·02	10·27
TOTAL RECEIPTS ...	6,64·85	7,15·33

* The figure shown last year has been corrected by the inclusion of the amount realized from owner's rate.

Expenditure.

149. The expenditure, excluding expenditure of the Military, Railways, Post Office and Telegraph Departments, Municipal expenditure and Capital expenditure on Canals, amounted to 4,24,08 lakhs in 1906-07. The detailed items, with corresponding figures for the previous year, are given below:—

Departments.	1905-06.	1906-07.
	Lakhs of rupees.	
Irrigation	76·42	80·27
Public Works	70·18	74·40
Land Revenue...	45·64	47·03
Police	43·14	47·08
Law and Justice	36·63	38·59
Medical	15·64	16·78
Education	26·44	27·57
General Administration	15·04	14·40
Superannuation Allowances and Pensions	14·78	14·93
Jails	10·38	10·53
Forests	12·63	11·44
Political	6·61	6·43
Stationery and Printing	5·32	6·23
Scientific and Other Minor Departments	5·59	6·88
Salt	3·85	3·81
All other items	17·51	17·71
TOTAL EXPENDITURE ...	4,05·80	4,24·08

Abstract of income and expenditure.

150. The following is an abstract of the gross income and expenditure for 1906-07 as recorded in the books of the Accountant-General, Punjab:—

	Receipts.				Expenditure.			
	Imperial.	Provincial.	Local.	Total.	Imperial.	Provincial.	Local.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Revenue and expentiture.	1,90,80,076	3,09,21,238	37,61,510	5,37,62,824	23,11,206	3,14,18,080	34,50,331	3,71,79,617
Contributions	...	2,95,265	7,13,728	10,08,993	...	7,13,728	2,95,265	10,08,993
Debt and remittance heads	...	...	...	32,79,36,419	...	...	...	34,69,64,220
Total ...	1,90,80,076	3,12,16,503	44,75,238	38,27,08,236	23,11,206	3,21,31,808	37,45,596	38,51,52,830
Opening balance.	...	...	...	91,15,178	Closing	balance	...	66,70,584
GRAND TOTAL	...	...	...	39,18,23,414	...	...	...	39,18,23,414

37. Land Revenue.

151. The land revenue collections for the year ending 30th September 1906 have been reviewed in Chapter II. The financial and revenue years do not correspond, but in both the excellent spring harvest of 1906 is included. This accounts for the increase in receipts, as it is not counterbalanced in the financial year by the bad autumn havest of 1905.

38. Irrigation.

152. The capital expenditure to the end of 1906-07 on all canals in operation and under construction for which a capital account is kept amounts to 1,218 lakhs. Of this sum nearly 75 lakhs were spent during the year, over 53 lakhs being devoted to the productive major works under construction. Capital expenditure.

153. The income including that realised on works for which only revenue accounts are kept and on the provincial canals amounted to 238 lakhs. The charges including interest on capital outlay amounted to 124 lakhs, thus leaving a net income of 114 lakhs. The condition of the Irrigation Department has been already discussed in Chapter IV. Income.

39. Opium and Excise Revenue.

154. The most remarkable feature of excise report is the continued growth in the gross revenue under this head, amounting in three years to a rise of 8½ lakhs of rupees. The net increase is almost the same, and the growth is apparent in every class of receipts. In some cases, as in those of imported charas and coloured spirits, the increase in revenue does not necessarily indicate a corresponding increase in consumption, as the rise is in part to be accounted for by enhancement of duty. The receipts from opium, however, and from country spirit, on which classes the rate of taxation has remained constant, exhibit an increase of nearly 6 lakhs, the chief rise being under the latter head. General.

155. The experiment of attempting to combat illicit distillation in four Sikh districts by selling liquor at a less expensive price than elsewhere, which is the most notewrothy feature of the Excise administration of the year, has been the subject of a special report, submitted for the orders of the Government of India. One result of the experiment has been to disclose the existence of illicit distillation on a much larger scale than was originally supposed to exist, and it would seem that the bulk of the increased revenue, derived from excise in the area referred to, represents what would have accrued to Government had it been possible to deal with illicit distillation on adequate lines in the past. The price of spirit in these districts has recently been raised with a view to determine more accurately the maximum rate at which it is possible to drive out illicit liquor without stimulating consumption. It is interesting to learn that the experiment has been accompanied locally by a decided decrease in the consumption of charas. Excluding these four districts the total for the province of Indian spirits sold under retail vend licenses compares as follows with the two preceding years:— Liquor.

		Gallons.
1904-05	...	... 235,587
1905-06	...	... 232,389
1906-07	...	... 244,559

The growth is attributed to the stimulus of plague and to general prosperity and good wages, and would have probably been higher but for the high price of molasses. Owing to the clearance of stocks to avoid the enhancement of duty in April 1906, the sales of coloured and sophisticated spirits do not yet show the effect of the increase in taxation. Some 1,500 gallons less beer were consumed during the present year than in 1904-05, and 7,000 less than last

year. The enhancement of duty on imported liquor imposed in Feburary 1906 checked the sales, but only to a very small extent, the consumers of such liquor being as a rule able to bear the enhanced rates without difficulty. As regards outstills, the issue in Firozpur (Gurgaon) remained constant, while the Kángra outstills increased their outturn by 2,500 gallons, drinking apparently having been stimulated by the rise in wages following the earthquake.

Opium and drugs.

156. The severity of the winter and the apprehensions of the cultivators regarding the proposed changes in the system of taxation contracted the supply of home grown opium during 1906-07. Prices in consequence ruled high, with the result that the spring crop of 1907 showed an increase of 17 per cent. both in the sown and matured areas. The acreage duty rose by Rs. 4,000. Only 24 per cent. of the produce appears to have been consumed in the Punjab, 16,000 sers being exported to Native States. In spite, however, of the high prices the consumption of opium and also of poppy-heads rose by 1,100 sers and 12,000 sers respectively. Large stocks of charas were cleared in order to avoid the enhancement of duty in the current year, and imports were swollen by the recovery of a large consignment which had been lost in the snow. Prices fell generally in consequence, and the consumption was slightly higher than that of the previous year. The consumption of bhang has decreased. Cocaine was included in the list of intoxicating drugs by the amending Act of 1906, but it is too early to forecast how far the measures intended to put a stop to the pernicious cocaine habit will prove successful.

40. Salt Revenue.

General.

157. No change was made in the prices at which salt manufactured on behalf of Government was sold to the public during the year. The rate of duty remained unchanged up to the 19th March 1907, but on and from the 20th March it was reduced to Re. 1 a maund. The duty on salt manufactured in the Mandi mines was reduced from Re. 0-4-6 to 0-3-0 from the same date. There was a marked increase in consumption of over 200,000 maunds, which represents an increase per head of ·44 lbs., the figures being 7·98 lbs in 1905-06 and 8·42 lbs. in 1906-07. A comparison of the prices before and after the reduction of duty shows that throughout the province the consumers received the full benefit, the only two exceptions being Shahpur and Ludhiána, where prices were slightly enhanced by combination among the traders.

41. Stamp Revenue.

General.

158. The total receipts of 1906-07 exceed those of the previous year by about Rs. 26,000. The total charges have fallen by Rs. 6,182 in spite of increases of Rs. 843 and Rs. 579 on account of postal charges and expenditure incurred in the carriage of stamp boxes. The net receipts are Rs. 32,005 greater than in 1905-06. The income from non-judicial stamps is Rs. 71,687 less than that of 1905-06. If, however, the income during the latter year from the sale of receipt stamps be omitted, the total for the year under report is Rs. 24,523 above that of 1905-06. Impressed non-judicial stamps realized Rs. 29,707 more than in 1905-06. In Amritsar, owing to the unsettled commercial conditions, several firms had to sell or mortgage their property in order to meet their liabilities. In the other districts the increases are attributed to more extensive land transactions between agriculturists. The income from the sale of *hundis* fell by Rs. 6,503. The insolvency of several firms reduced the transactions in these bills in Amritsar and also affected them in Delhi. Foreign bill stamps were more extensively used on account of the increased import of foreign goods into Amritsar. Lahore reports increased activity in dealings in the shares of companies. The necessity for affixing notarial stamps to certificates on powers-of-attorney is more carefully kept in view than formerly.

42. Assessed taxes.

159. A triennial report was issued on this subject in 1904. The total net collections show an increase from Rs. 12,31,792 to Rs. 13,25,409. This is partly accounted for by the fact that the Southern Punjab Railway paid income tax for the first time this year. There is a very marked increase of Rs. 27,000 in the assessment of Delhi, and every year the importance of the trade of that city becomes more marked. The total number of the lowest class of assessees with incomes below Rs. 1,000 rose by over 200 and the income realised from them by nearly Rs. 5,000. There is no reason, however, to believe that the Act is not being fairly worked.

43. Forest Revenue.

160. [Forest revenue and expenditure have already been noticed in Chapter IV.]

44. Provincial Revenues.

161. The income and expenditure under the provincial section of accounts during the past year have been as follows:—

Year.	Opening balance.	Income.	Expenditure.	Closing balance.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1904-05	32,00,000	2,69,86,803	2,21,92,416	79,94,387
1905-06	79,94,387	2,73,08,306	3,01,04,358	51,98,335
1906-07	*60,47,000	3,12,16,503	3,21,31,808	51,31,695

*The opening balance for 1906-07 differs from the closing balance on 31st March 1905 on account of the transfer of Rs. 8,49,000, the balance of the Patwari Fund, from Local to Provincial.

The figures for 1906-07 are not final, but are liable to correction in next year's Administration Report. The closing balance of the year 1906-07 included 16 lakhs out of the 20 lakhs contributed from Imperial Revenues for the extension and improvement of Simla. The patwar cess was abolished with effect from the 1st April 1906, from which date the patwari service was provincialised.

The revenue classed as Provincial consists of a share of the receipts of the general revenues, the principal heads of which, with the exception of Provincial Rates, have been discussed above. Provincial Rates on land include the local rate levied under the District Boards Act, 1883, which is noticed in the following section. Under the new Provincial Settlement, which came into force on 1st April 1905, Provincial Revenues receive three-eighths of the income from Imperial canals and are responsible for the same proportion of the working expenses and interest on debt, subject to a guaranteed net income of 28 lakhs per annum.

45. Local Funds.

162. The closing balances on 31st March 1907 aggregated Rs. 23,66,000 against Rs. 19,50,000 in the previous year. The latter figure includes the adjustment of the grant of 6½ lakhs given by the Government of India, which was effected by journal entry after the review for 1905-06 had been rendered. It is satisfactory to note that the special annual grants referred to under "Contributions" and the policy of regulating the liability of district boards for local plague Balances.

expenditure with reference to their financial position have materially improved the finances of these bodies. The orders of the Government of India imperialising District Postal Charges with effect from the 1st April 1906, and the waiving of the recoveries hitherto made from these bodies on that account, have also benefited district boards by Rs. 1,41,000 per annum. In every case the closing balance was well over the prescribed minimum of ten per cent. of income. The policy of Government in undertaking the construction of feeder roads in accordance with a methodical programme, and financing a moiety of the cost will soon have these lines of communication on a satisfactory basis, while the improvement in the financial condition of the district boards should enable them to bring their other Public Works requirements up to date.

Audit.

163. The accounts of twelve district boards were audited during the year, but in the accounts of only one—Shahpur—serious irregularities were disclosed in the Public Works Section in the matter of measurements. A simple code of accounts has been drafted by the Examiner and is now under the consideration of Government. It brings together the essential rules bearing on the upkeep and control of the accounts of these bodies, and their careful observance should remove the defects noticed.

Income and expenditure.

164. The accounts have been tabulated in the forms as revised by the Government of India in their Home Department Resolution No. 14—26, dated 29th January 1907. Excluding debt head transactions, the total income amounted to Rs. 42,40,000 against Rs. 31,84,000 and the expenditure to Rs. 38,90,000 against Rs. 32,32,000 in the previous year. There is a nominal decrease in the income from Local Rates shown in the tabulated statement at the opening of the chapter. This is due to the abolition of the patwar cess. The increase in the real income is chiefly under the heads Provincial Rates 3·12 lakhs, Civil Works 1·27 lakhs, Contributions 6·19 lakhs. That under "Provincial Rates" is due to good harvests, which ensured the payment of current demands and also of suspended revenue, and partly to enhanced income resulting from the creation of the Chunián and Jhelum colonies, the revision of assessment in the Háfizabad and Khángah Dográn tahsíls, and the re-assessment of revenue on lands on the Jhelum Canal due to the extension of irrigation. The receipts under "Civil Works" increased chiefly under the heads "Sale of buildings and other property" (Rs. 82,000) due to the sale of shop sites of the Dabwáli Mandi in the Hissar district, which has been extended during the year under report, and partly under the heads "Sale of stores and materials" in the Attock district, "Sale-proceeds of trees, grass, &c." and "Receipts or savings from Public Works under Civil Audit".

The increase in expenditure of 6·58 lakhs is chiefly under the heads Civil Works 5·33 lakhs, Education 1·48 lakh, Medical (excluding plague) ·41 lakh and Scientific and other Minor Departments ·51 lakh. That under Civil Works is explained below. The extension of primary education, the revision of the scale and pay of the teaching staff, and the improvement of apparatus and school equipment account for the increase under "Education". The purchase of Arab stallions and Hissar bulls for cattle-breeding, the opening of new veterinary dispensaries in three districts and the purchase of medicines, instruments and furniture to equip others absorb the increase shown under "Scientific and other Minor Departments."

Contributions.

165. This head is the channel of adjustment between the Provincial Government and district boards of their respective obligations. On the receipt side there is an increase of Rs. 6,19,000 which represents the one-fourth share of the fluctuating local rate contributed by Provincial revenues for the use of district boards out of the fixed annual assignment of 6½ lakhs made by the Government of India. The decrease of Rs. 1,94,000 on the expenditure side is chiefly due to the imperialization with effect from the 1st April 1906 of district postal charges. The arrear contributions remaining due to Government on the 31st March 1907 amounted to Rs. 37,000 only.

Civil Works.

The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 16,29,000 against Rs. 10,96,000 in the preceding year. The increase of Rs. 5·33,000, which was mainly financed from the annual assignment of 6½ lakhs made by the Government of India, was spread over almost all the sub-heads excepting "Miscellaneous," which showed a decrease of Rs. 2,000. Of this increase "Buildings" absorbed Rs. 1,20,000 (Original Works Rs. 95,000 and Repairs Rs. 25,000), "Communications" Rs. 2,82,000 (Original Works Rs. 2,32,000 and Repairs Rs. 50,000), "Other Works of Improvement" Rs. 63,000, "Arboricultural charges" Rs. 31,000, "Establishment and Contingencies" Rs. 23,000, and the rest was spent under other sub-heads.

The works of importance constructed during the year were—

	Rs.
Hissar.—Dabwáli and Budhláda Mandi works	34,000
Ludhiána.—Jagráon Mandi works	21,000
Ferozepore.—New building for district board office ...	12,000
Lyallpur.—Sarái at Lyallpur	33,000

Medical.

166. Excluding plague charges, the expenditure amounted to Rs. 4,01,000 against Rs. 3,60,000 in the previous year. The increase of Rs. 41,000 occurs chiefly under the head "Hospitals and Dispensaries," and is due mainly to larger outlay on the purchase of European medicines, surgical instruments and equipment for dispensaries, and, partly to the opening of new dispensaries in the districts of Ludhiána, Ferozepore and Miánwáli. The local expenditure on plague aggregated 1·37 lakhs against ·44 lakh in 1905-06, of which 1·13 lakhs and ·42 lakh respectively were charged to district funds under the arrangement explained above

46. Municipal Funds.

Balances.

167. The balance of the several municipalities at the close of the year amounted to Rs. 16,53,000 in cash and Rs. 2,87,000 in investments. Those of a few municipalities fell below the prescribed minimum of 10 per cent. of the receipts for the year, owing partly to the prevalence of plague and partly to larger refunds of octroi collections.

Income.

168. The total income exclusive of debt head transactions amounted to Rs. 54,08,000 against Rs. 49,48,000 last year. The chief increase is under the head "Grants and Contributions" (for general and special purposes) under which the municipalities received Rs. 4,36,000 against Rs. 2,27,000. Rupees 1,00,000 were given from the 20 lakhs assigned by the Government of India for the extension of Simla and Rs. 82,000 were subscribed by the public in aid of the water-supply scheme of Ludhiána. The total receipts under the head "Miscellaneous" were Rs. 4,03,000 against Rs. 3,04,000, showing an increase of Rs. 99,000, which is due, partly to the sale of unserviceable articles in Delhi and, partly to better income from the sale of water in the Delhi, Ambála, Amritsar and Lahore municipalities.

Expenditure.

169. The total expenditure was Rs. 53,13,000 against Rs. 51,98,000. There was an increase of Rs. 1,64,000 under "General Administration and Collection Charges" and the sub-heads "Refunds other than octroi," "Collection of octroi" and "Office establishment," which is due chiefly to the entertainment of larger establishments for the collection of octroi, and to the cost entailed in carrying out improvements following the introduction of the Municipal Account Code. The charge for Public Instruction amounted to Rs. 4,43,000 against Rs. 4,34,000 in the preceding year, showing an increase of Rs. 9,000 spread over several towns and spent on improvements in the pay of the teaching staff and in the equipment of schools. The total number of scholars on the rolls of secondary schools under municipal management on 31st March 1907 was 15,300 or 819 more than in the previous year.

Extraordinary and Debt.

170. The receipts and charges under this head amounted to Rs. 4,63,000 and Rs 4,01,000, against Rs. 4,56,000 and Rs. 2,97,000 in the preceding year, showing an increase of Rs. 7,000 and Rs. 1,04,000 respectively. The increase on the expenditure side is due chiefly to larger investments made in the year. The balances of loans outstanding on 31st March 1907 aggregated Rs. 52,28,000 against Rs. 52,83,000 on 31st March 1906. The decrease of Rs. 55,000 represents the difference between the advances taken up during the year by certain municipalities against sanctioned loans and the instalments paid in repayment of loans advanced in previous years. The financial condition of each indebted municipality was satisfactory, the closing balance on 31st March 1907 in every case being above the minimum prescribed by Government.

CHAPTER VI.

ITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICE.

[Detailed information and statistics will b· found in the following reports and ıblications :—

Census.—Report on the Census of the Punjab and North-West Frontier, 1901, by H. A. Rose, I.C.S.

Births and Deaths— Sanitations.— Report on the Sanitary Administration of the Punjab and Proceedings of the Sanitary Board and the Report on Sanitary Works for the year 1906. Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India for 1905-06, Eleventh Issue, Table XIII.

Emigration.— Census Report, *as above*, and Financial and Commercial Statistics of British India, Thirteenth Issue, Table XXXV.

Medical Relief.— Notes on the Annual Statements of the Dispensaries and Charitable Institutions of the Punjab for the year ending 31st December 1906. Judicial, &c., Statistics, *as above*, Tables XIV and XV. Report of the Punjab Lunatic Asylum for the year 1906.

Vaccination.— Notes on Vaccination in the Punjab for the year 1906-07. Judicial, &c., Statistics, *as above*, Table XVI.]

47. Details of Census.

(See pages 153—60 of the Report for the year 1901-02 and the Report on the Census of the Punjab and North-West Frontier Province, 1901.)

48. Births and Deaths.

171. The number of births registered during the year was 878,006, which gives a ratio of 43·7 per thousand, and is slightly below the figure for the preceding year. A lowering of the birth-rate is usually ascribed to the prevalence of malaria in the preceding autumn; but, as the season in 1905 was not markedly unhealthy in this respect, and as plague greatly decreased in 1906, an explanation of the diminished birth-rate must be sought elsewhere. There seems to be reasonable grounds for the suggestion of the Sanitary Commissioner that the defect is possibly due to the scarcity and consequent high prices of food-grains prevailing in certain districts at the end of 1905 and beginning of 1906, especially as this defect is more strongly marked in the areas most affected by these causes. The decrease in the birth-rate in Hissar and Rohtak is clearly ascribable to this cause. The excess of the birth-rate over the death-rate amounted to 6·8 per thousand for the whole province, and, although the birth-rate was less than in 1905, it is above the average for the previous quinquennium. **Birth-rate.**

172. The death-rate for the year 1906 corresponds to a ratio of 36·94 per thousand and exhibits a very substantial decrease of 10·61 as compared with the very high rate (47·55) of 1905. The climatic conditions for three-quarters of the year were favourable, and, had it not been for heavy monsoon rainfall late in the season, the year would under normal conditions have shown a low death-rate. The two principal features that have dominated the vital statistics for some years past are the mortality from fever and from plague, and of these the latter is the more variable factor. The distinguishing feature, and it may be added the most satisfactory one, of the year **Death-rate.**

under report is the remarkable diminution in the mortality from plague, and, broadly speaking, it is this which explains the more pronounced variations from the state of affairs that has existed during the previous four years. From 1902 to 1905 the Punjab registered the highest death-rate in India, but during the year under review it shows a decline to the third place, below the Central and United Provinces; and for the first time since 1901 the birth-rate exceeds the death-rate. Both these facts may be attributed to the decrease in the loss of life from plague.

Fevers.

173. The mortality from fevers was rather greater than in 1905, 407,878 deaths being registered from this cause, or more than half the total mortality from all causes. The year 1906 was not, however, particularly unhealthy in this respect, and in point of fact the death-rate from this class of disease was below the average for the previous five years. The death-rate from small-pox, though nearly treble that of the previous year, was only slightly in excess of the quinquennial average, and this disease seems to be subject to periodic variation for which no satisfactory explanation is forthcoming. The figures of deaths from other diseases varied but slightly from the normal average and need no detailed comment.

Plague.

174. The most marked feature of the year was the diminution in the plague mortality, which fell to the lowest figure recorded since 1901. There were 91,712 deaths reported as compared with 334,897 in 1905. This is ascribed to the climatic conditions of the autumn of 1905 being adverse to the recrudescence and spread of the disease, so that the high figures of the previous four years were never approached. In the later part of 1906 the conditions again most unfortunately became very favourable to the spread of the disease, and since the close of the year the province has been suffering from a visitation which is unprecedented, any hopes that were entertained of a natural diminution of virulence being thus disappointed. Every effort has been made to educate the people and their natural leaders in the measures which they can carry out themselves and to stimulate them into action. Rat destruction has been carried out on a large scale, and it is encouraging to learn that it has been to a modified extent successful. It is a measure that is fairly well accepted, as it causes little incovenience, and it may be hoped that as time goes on the people may be persuaded to take a more active interest in it and learn to carry it out themselves. Evacuation, desiccation and inoculation form the other main palliatives in combating the disease, but their effectiveness is constantly marred by the lack of thoroughness with which they are carried out. The great preponderance of female over male mortality and the relative immunity of infants and the aged are again striking features of the returns.

49. Emigration and Immigration.

(There is nothing to report under this heading.)

50. Medical Relief.

New dispensaries.

175. At the beginning of 1906 there were 395 hospitals and dispensaries of all classes; 25 were established during the year and 6 were closed; thus a total of 414 remained open at the end of the year. The new dispensaries include 6 that existed prior to 1906, but whose statistics have been furnished for the first time. Seven new dispensaries constructed from local funds were opened during the year and those of this class now number 248.

In-patients and out-patients.

176. There were 3,907,582 out-patients treated as compared with 3,199,250 in 1905. 62,826 in-patients were treated at all the institutions as compared with 57,091 in 1905. Of these 44,139 were cured, 10,404 relieved, 5,219 discharged otherwise and 2,026 died. The ratio per cent. of deaths has slightly risen from 3·17 in 1905 to 3·22. There was a daily average of 2,015·17 under treatment against 1,943·62 in 1905. The number of beds maintained was 3,603 against 3,398 last year, and although the total number available is

Chapter VI. VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICE.

far in excess of the daily average of patients, some of the more popular hospitals are overcrowded during the spring and autumn when the people take advantage of a lull in agricultural operations to undergo surgical treatment.

Staff

177. Four English trained nurses were added to the staff of the Mayo Hospital, and steps were taken to provide some for the municipal hospitals of Delhi and Amritsar. The continued success and efficiency of the Mission hospitals is largely due to the presence of such nurses,—an advantage enjoyed by very few Government institutions.

Nature of the work.

178. The prevalence of malaria throughout the Province during the autumnal months accounts for an increase of 276,768 in the total number of persons treated. In several districts the attendance under this head was more than twice what it was in the previous year. There was also an increase under almost all other heads of disease, which was most marked in the cases of eye affections, ear affections, "other diseases of the digestive system," ulcers and "other diseases of the skin." The number of cases of small-pox was 367 as compared with 93 in 1905, cholera cases also rose from 469 to 773. The number of surgical operations rose from 180,408 to 192,643, of which 19,421 were selected operations. Of the latter 3,274 including 2,974 cataract extractions were performed by one officer, Major Smith, Civil Surgeon of Jullundur, who has thus established a world record.

Leper asylums.

179. During the year 171 lepers were admitted into the leper asylums: 30 died and 148 left of their own accord. The total number treated was therefore practically the same as in the previous year. The total expenditure incurred was Rs. 18,566.

Pasteur Institute.

180. During the year 1,308 persons were treated at the Pasteur Institute at Kasauli, being an increase of no less than 53 per cent. as compared with the previous year. Of these 452 were Europeans and 856 natives. It is most satisfactory to note that the institution is rapidly becoming popular among the latter, and whereas only 364 native patients were treated in 1905, the figure for 1906 was 570 and for the year under report 856. Out of the total number there were only 10 failures, 1 being in a European case and 9 in native cases.

Lunatic asylum.

181. The total number admitted into the lunatic asylum was 174, of whom 131 were males and 43 females, as compared with 151 males and 33 females in the previous year. Including the number remaining on the 1st January, the total population was 770, consisting of 605 males and 165 females, against 612 males and 148 females in 1905. The daily average strength was 604·75 against 597·00 in the previous year. The total number discharged was 114, of whom 97 were males and 17 females; 40 males and 17 females died, leaving 599 inmates at the end of the year, against 596 at the close of 1905. The daily average strength of the population is still in excess of the accommodation available in the male asylum, while the number of patients in the female asylum exhibits a steadily increasing tendency in the same direction. A scheme for increasing the accommodation in the male asylum is being worked out in detail, and will, it is hoped, be advanced to a practical stage before very long. Owing to the prevalence of malaria in the latter portion of the year a considerable strain was thrown on the hospital resources of the asylum, which had to be met by placing a number of the sick in tents. Excluding two cases of suicide, which occurred for the first time since the opening of the asylum in 1900, the death-rate was actually lower than in the previous year, a fact which speaks well for the efficiency with which the sick were treated. In neither of the cases of suicide had any symptoms been previously observed in the patients to indicate a suicidal tendency. Steps were taken to segregate juveniles from adults much to the advantage of both. The question of the complete separation of criminal insanes is still under consideration.

Chemical Examiner.

182. There has been a marked increase in the number of both cases and articles submitted for analysis to the Chemical Examiner during the year. The former have risen from 1,140 to 1,395 and the latter from 3,361 to 3,989. The detective results have been most satisfactory, with ratios of 68·59 per cent. in human, over 78 in cattle, and nearly 92 in blood cases. In view of the increase of work in the department the Chemical Examiner has been relieved of his lecturing duties in the Medical College from the end of the summer session of 1907.

51. Sanitation.

Sanitation.

183. A sum of over Rs. 40,000 was spent by local bodies in the clearance and protection of wells; but it is disappointing to note that the rewards offered by district boards for sanitary improvement in villages evoked no interest and remained unutilised.

The sanitary board held five meetings during the year and were able to distribute the allotment placed at their disposal by assisting fourteen towns to finance various sanitary projects which would otherwise have had to be postponed. The services of the Sanitary Engineer to Government, which has now been made a permanent appointment, were very fully employed by local bodies in the preparation of schemes and estimates for drainage and water-works, and a number of important projects are being carried through under his advice and supervision. The drainage schemes at Delhi, Multán and Ráwalpindi made satisfactory progress during the year, while those at Jagráon, Gujrát and Sargodha were carried through to completion. The Ludhiána water-works were sanctioned and a satisfactory commencement made with the project.

52. Vaccination.

Vaccination.

184. Vaccination operations during the year were considerably retarded by the prevalence of malaria in many districts during the first part of the season and by the very serious increase of plague in the province between January and March. The number of vaccinations performed (705,219) was considerably below the record for the two previous years, though above the average of the preceding quinquennium. The special staff succeeded in increasing their previous record of operations, but this was more than counterbalanced by the falling off in the returns of the district staff. The decrease in re-vaccinations, both among males and females, in spite of the special system under which one-eighth of a district is dealt with every year is disappointing, but is almost entirely due to the causes referred to above. The percentage of success in primary vaccinations has improved, but the results in cases of re-vaccination are not so good as those of the previous year. The glycerinated lymph treated with chloroform manufactured at the Central Vaccine Institute was used in over 176,000 operations and has again proved a marked success, giving the most satisfactory results both in primary and re-vaccination operations.

CHAPTER VII.

INSTRUCTION.

[For detailed information see the Annual Report on Public Instruction in the Punjab for 1906-07 and the Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India, table X, Education, and XII, Printing Presses and Newspapers.]

53. General system of Public Instruction.

(See paragraphs 616-35 of the report of 1901-02.)

Public Instruction.

54. Education.

General statistics.

185. The present report deals with a quinquennium which has been marked by considerable departmental activity. Expenditure on education has increased by almost 20 lakhs of rupees, 52 lakhs being the gross total for the year under report. A thousand new teaching establishments have been opened, and the roll of scholars has risen by half a lakh.

In 1907 the number of public institutions was 4,074, with 234,895 pupils. The number of private institutions was 3,710 with 65,342 pupils. In the former 2,266 attended Arts or Professional Colleges, 67,415 attended secondary and 161,546 primary schools. Training and special schools accounted for 3,668 students. Of the private institutions, the advanced schools were attended by 4,174 pupils and the elementary by 61,168. The figures now show that 23·71 of all towns and villages are provided with a school of some sort, and that 16·02 per cent. of the male population and 2·65 of the female population of school-going age are receiving instruction.

General progress.

186. The period has been one of considerable progress. The number of scholars in attendance has increased by more than fifty thousand, and the most prominent feature of the period is the rapid expansion of primary education made possible by the liberal Government grants. The conversion of the municipal board secondary schools at the head-quarters of districts into Government schools has had a beneficial effect on the development of higher education. The reorganization of the Punjab University has added greatly to the efficiency of the colleges. Another noteworthy feature of the period is the growth of female education, despite unfavourable social customs. In this connection the establishment of the Normal School for Women at Lahore deserves mention. It will in a measure remove the one great obstacle in the way of the education of girls, *viz*, want of efficient female teachers. The splitting up of the Province into two circles for the purpose of ensuring a more thorough inspection of girls' schools and the strengthening of the female inspecting staff has had a very salutary effect.

The organization of an athletic tournament for normal schools in addition to the University, Circle and District Tournaments, noticed in previous reports, the provision of a fine gymnasium in connection with the Central Training College, and the erection of swimming baths, the growing number of Teachers' Associations and Schoolboys' Clubs, and the extension of the hostel system, all clearly indicate that the moral and physical development of the pupils has kept pace with the intellectual advance made during the period.

The most important events of the quinquennium were as follows :—

(1) The revision of the Punjab Education Code and the Code for Europeans.

(2) The strengthening of the inspection staff by the addition of one Inspector, 2 Assistant Inspectors, one Inspectress, 2 Assistant Inspectresses and 24 Assistant District Inspectors.

(3) The appointment of a Vice-Principal in the Indian Educational Service and of additional lecturers in Science and Clerical and Commercial subjects in the Central Training College. The reorganization of the staffs of the Normal schools and the extension of the period of study in all Training Institutions.

(4) The creation of Professorships of Chemistry and Biology in the Government College, Lahore.

(5) The establishment of a Government School of Engineering.

(6) The opening of a class in the Central Training College for preparing students for the newly instituted degree of Bachelor of Teaching; and of Commercial Classes in connection with the College and 12 Government High Schools.

(7) The establishment of St. Bede's College at Simla for the training of female European teachers, the starting of training classes in connection with the Auckland House School for young girls and for young men at Sanáwar, where the general staff of the school has also been completely reorganized.

(8) The erection of a handsome Examination Hall, with Syndicate and Committee Rooms; the reconstruction of Bishop Cotton School, Simla, and of some Government High Schools and Normal Schools, with substanitial additions to the class-room accommodation at the Central Training College, and the provision of a well-equipped gymnasium and swimming bath in connection with the same institution.

(9) The abolition of the Anglo-Vernacular Middle School and Upper Primary Examinations.

(10) The increase in the number and rate of scholarships given in European schools.

(11) The appointment of a Government Auditor for European schools.

Primary education.

187. The facilities for primary education have been greatly developed in consequence largely of the impulse given by the grant made in 1905 of three lakhs of rupees per annum by Government for this object. Nine hundred new primary schools for boys and 200 for girls have come into existence, and 40,000 more boys and 7,700 more girls are now receiving this stage of education. The abolition of the upper primary certificate which was once regarded as a passport to employment by Government is said to have checked the expansion of numbers in the upper primary departments, but the fact that the number of primary scholars in general has so largely risen is a matter for satisfaction. So too is the increase in the attendance of agriculturists and the development of the attempt to induce parents to allow their girls to receive instruction in boys' schools. The institution of rural schools with a curriculum adapted to the limited requirements of the agricultural population is an experiment which has been adopted to replace the zamindari schools, which had proved a failure. Its success remains to be seen, but it is hoped that a system, which includes instruction in such practical subjects as agriculture and native methods of accounts and will provide the means of rising to secondary schools without interfering with the home-calls of the pupils, will soon become popular. The relief afforded to local bodies by the provincialisation of certain secondary schools will probably result in their evincing more interest in primary education. This question is at present engaging the particular attention of Government, and it is thought that the connection between local bodies, especially district boards, and primary education should probably be made still closer than it is now, though at the same time more independent of departmental control, since the history of local self-government in the province proves indubitably that a too rigorous departmental control is incompatible with the existence of any lively feeling of interest in local administration.

Secondary education.

188. As regards secondary education, the most salient features of the last five years have been the provincializing of the main middle or high school of each district, and the abolition of the Anglo-Vernacular Middle School Examination. The former step meets apparently with no criticism, and it is possible that further action on the same lines might profitably be taken, if no serious financial difficulty is apprehended. There exist in the Province 86 Anglo-Vernacular as against only 110 Vernacular middle schools, and the proportionate reduction (now contemplated) of schools where English is badly taught in comparison with those where a good middle education is imparted through the medium of the Vernacular will probably be a distinct advantage both to the teaching of English in particular and to the cause of education in general.

The Punjab University.

189. The twenty-sixth Convocation of the Punjab University was held in the new University Hall on Friday, the 21st December last, when 163 graduates were admitted to various degrees as compared with 172 in 1901-02. For the first half of the quinquennium the University has no important change to record. While the Universities Commission completed its labours, and the bill, which was passed as the Indian Universities Act of 1904, was still under discussion, all important changes under consideration were deferred until the Act should come into force. The second half of the quinquennium has been mainly occupied by the work of carrying out the provisions of that Act. This work falls under three main heads :—

A.—The reconstitution of the Senate, Faculties, Syndicate, and Subordinate Boards or Committees ;

B.—The affiliation of Colleges ;

C.—The revision of all the Regulations especially as regards examinations.

Various changes in the Senate, Syndicate, Faculties and Boards of Studies have been introduced which have tended to make the constitutional machinery of the University work more smoothly and rapidly. The working of the Boards of Studies occasionally causes delay, but this is likely to be avoided as the new boards settle down to their work, and the system should tend to efficiency in a matter that has so long needed reform.

At the time of the passing of the Indian Universities Act no system of affiliation existed. Proposals had been formulated for a system similar to those in other Indian Universities, but the discussion of details led to so much opposition that the scheme was shelved. The passing of the Act settled the question, and all the colleges previously recognised applied for affiliation, as did also a new institution in Kashmir, and subsequently three more in Simla. Committees of inspection were appointed to report on the condition of these institutions. As a result of the inspection, it was found impossible to adopt any standard of efficiency that could be regarded as at all permanent without excluding the great majority of the institutions inspected. This would have caused a serious set back to college education and seemed opposed to the spirit of section 20 of the Act. A proposal to grant affiliation for two years having been found to be open to legal objections, affiliation was granted in every case, but each institution was called upon by the Syndicate to effect certain improvements within the period of two years.

A revised body of regulations was submitted to Government within a year of the coming into operation of the Act, and this was finally sanctioned. The following are the more important changes :—Two new degrees—Bachelor of Teaching and Master of Science—have been instituted. Candidates qualify for the Degree of Bachelor of Teaching by passing an examination, practical as well as theoretical, after a two years' post-graduate course of study at the Central Training College. This degree, which is intended to attract men of good calibre to the teaching profession, was already awaiting sanction at the time of the passing of the Act, and has been awarded at the last two

Convocations. The Master of Science Degree is the old Master of Arts in a Science subject under a new name. It represents another step in the gradual creation of a highly specialised Science side of instruction. Two diplomas—Licentiate-in-Laws and Licentiate-in-Medicine and Surgery—are being replaced by the Degree of Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery, respectively. The Oriental examinations in Law and Medicine have been removed from the regulations. Throughout the quinquennium the practice of wandering from college to college and joining classes at any time of the year has become increasingly difficult. Every University student is now registered and his whole University career is recorded against his name, including dates of joining classes and success or failure in examinations. The registered number is now being used instead of the name in lists of candidates supplied to Examiners.

The new University Hall has been completed at a cost of Rs. 1,54,000, and is now used for Convocation and examinations. The University Library is being practically refounded on a new scale, thanks to a special grant from the Government of India. As to finance, the first four years of the quinquennium show a serious decline in prosperity, bnt in spite of a special grant of Rs. 24,000 from the Government of India to meet the deficit of one year, and the subsequent grant of Rs. 10,000 per annum to meet the cost of inspection, travelling expenses and general administration, the University did not always make both ends meet.

Arts Colleges.

190. There are 9 Arts (English) Colleges and one Oriental College as compared with 12 and 1 in 1901-02, which are attended by 1,508 students as compared with 1,244. The number of candidates appearing in the several examinations was 1,023 with 409 passes as compared with 689 candidates and 398 passes in 1901-02. The percentages of passes in the Intermediate, B. A. and M. A. Examinations were 49, 42·12 and 42·5, respectively, and in the Science Faculty in the Intermediate and B. Sc. Examinations they were 42 and 25, respectively.

Expenditure has risen during the quinquennium by Rs. 86,162 to Rs. 2,56,429. To the total expenditure Provincial Revenues contributed Rs. 93,473, District and Municipal Funds Rs. 2,091, Fees Rs. 82,725, Subscriptions Rs. 18,054, and Endowments and Other Sources Rs. 60,086.

All the colleges show a satisfactory increase in the number of students and in the expenditure incurred. At the Government College the staff has been strengthened by the addition of Professors of Chemistry and Biology and Assistant Professors of Biology, Philosophy and Physics. St. Stephens' College, Delhi, has been enlarged, more especially in the direction of increased accommodation in boarding houses. The Islamia College, Lahore, is in a more flourishing condition than formerly, and has purchased a site for new buildings. The most common defect is still the lack of properly constructed laboratories and of sufficient provision for practical instruction in Science.

Training Colleges.

191. The institutions for the training of teachers are the Central Training College, Lahore, for the training of teachers for secondary departments of schools and Anglo-Vernacular teachers for primary departments; Normal Schools for males at Lahore, Delhi, Multán, Jullundur and Ráwalpindi, where Vernacular teachers for primary schools and departments are trained; a Normal School for Women at Lahore which trains for Vernacular appointments in primary and secondary girls' schools, and St. Bede's College and Auckland House, Simla, which train female teachers for European schools. The three institutions for training female teachers did not exist in 1901-02. Of these, St. Bede's College is intended for the higher education of women as well as for the training of teachers. In addition to the above, there are training classes for girls attached to several schools. A training class was opened after the close of the quinquennium for male teachers in European schools at Sanáwar.

192. In the schools for special education the most marked feature is the development in, and popularity of, the female medical school at Ludhiána and the Mayo School of Art at Lahore. It is admitted that the Government School of Engineering is not yet organised on a satisfactory basis, but it has already managed to obtain employment for 50 per cent. of its passed students. The evening continuation classes recently started give good promise for the future both in respect of popularity and of efficiency, and the development of commercial instruction both in English and in Vernacular is an important innovation, which may prove of considerable value. The indigenous and other industrial schools continue to do good work, and provide for classes which for obvious reasons are often unable to profit by the teaching of the more regular schools.

Special schools.

193. The development of female education occupies a prominent place in the present report. Rapid progress in this branch was, from the nature of things, not to be expected in view of the many difficulties which the movement had to face, but the expansion of female schools and the increasing interest evinced by all classes alike in the importance of the education of girls is one of the most interesting and satisfactory features of the quinquennium. Five new secondary and two hundred and sixteen new primary schools for girls have been opened. Of the districts where female education is most popular five out of six belong to the Central Punjab. The south-eastern part of the Province, in spite of the efforts of the various missionary bodies, is still very backward. In the west of the Province the movement in favour of female education has had to contend with the ravages made by plague among teachers and pupils alike, but the Inspectress is nevertheless able to report the very gratifying increase of 68 per cent. in the number of female scholars. There is a most satisfactory growth in the number of Gurmukhi schools, and also of indigenous institutions for females, but it is clear that until the supply of satisfactory teachers is more adequate the rapid development of the movement for which the Province is ripening cannot be attained. Mixed classes for boys and girls have not made much progress; but the experiment is being continued.

Female education.

194. The record of the development of European education is marked by the grant of Rs. 27,000 annually, and by the appointment of a qualified auditor to systematize the accounts of the schools. The numbers of institutions and scholars have remained practically stationary. A slight shrinkage in the number of schools is due to the policy of concentration recently adopted. In spite of the large number of pupils which appear to be attracted to the Punjab schools from other provinces, the state of European education is, owing to financial insecurity and the consequent difficulty of securing and retaining a good teaching staff, still far from satisfactory. The financial position of the aided institutions cannot be accurately ascertained until the results of the scientific audit are before Government, but it is to be hoped that when the financial situation is clearly set forth, it may be possible to allot the recurring grant to greater advantage than is the case at present. The lack of male teachers is a real difficulty, and at present no practical solution can be suggested.

European education.

195. The advance made by the Muhammadan community in education is very marked. The efforts of Government to stimulate this section of the people in a desire for the advantages of the public educational institutions have, it would appear, begun to awaken a response among the leaders of Musalman society, and it is to be hoped that the interest now aroused will be maintained.

Muhammadans.

196. The following statistics show the improvement which has taken place in the number of institutions, attendance of pupils, and results of examinations in Native States. The number of Arts Colleges is 3, the same as in 1901-02. The attendance has risen by 32. The number of public schools has risen by 96, the net result of an increase of 7 secondary Anglo-Vernacular schools, and of 95 primary schools for general education, and a decrease of 6 special schools. The attendance has gone up by 1,310 and 3,942 in secondary Anglo-Vernacular and primary schools, respectively, and has fallen by 136 in special

Education in Native States.

schools. The indigenous schools are fewer by 311 with an attendance smaller by 1,377 pupils: 1,063 more pupils now learn English. The number of boys has risen by 3,349 and of girls by 229. The total male population of these States is now 2,409,809, so that 1 in 149 is under instruction.

For the M. A. Examination there was no candidate. In the B. A. Examination 3 out of 10 passed, against 2 out of 8 in 1901-02. These 3 belonged to the Patiala State, which had sent up 7 candidates, the other 3 being from Kapurthala and Maler Kotla. In the Intermediate Examination 15 out of 46 were successful against 21 out of 51. In the Matriculation Examination 89 out of 229 passed on the Arts side, and one (the only candidate) on the Oriental side, against 62 out of 187 and 2 out of 3, respectively, five years ago. The Vernacular Middle School Examination secured 41 passes out of 70, against 79 out of 150. Including the Titles Examinations and the Clerical and Commercial Examination for male teachers, altogether 161 out of 389 passed.

Boarding-houses.

197. Compared with the earlier period, there is an appreciable increase in the number of hostels and their inmates. The total expenditure on these institutions has also risen by about 33 per cent. The number of hostels attached to colleges has increased by 50 per cent., while that of residents has nearly doubled in the course of the five years Throughout the Province every year sees improvement in the management of boarding-houses in one respect or another; and now no grant is paid on account of any boarding-house unless the Inspector is thoroughly satisfied that the locality is respectable, the sanitation sufficient, the rooms properly lighted by day and night and well furnished, and the private study of the pupils effectively supervised.

Discipline and Moral Training.

198. Physical training forms an essential part of the course of instruction followed in all Government, Board and Aided institutions for males, other than those of the indigenous type. In recognised Unaided schools too the importance of the physical side of education is being more and more realised. The departmental courses of physical training have been recast so as to provide for *desi kasrat*, or the indigenous system of athletics—a system admirably suited to the young Indian pupils and one, moreover, which requires no apparatus. Circle and other tournaments have become more popular, and the greatest enthusiasm, which unfortunately leads on some occasions to ill-feeling and accusations of unfairness, is shown at these periodical gatherings.

In colleges physical training has made a distinct advance. Cricket, football, and hockey are very much in favour An extensive piece of ground has been assigned by Government to the University and the Government College, and a fine swimming-bath for the latter institution is in course of construction. The Central Training College also has now its own swimming-bath and well-equipped gymnasium. The improvement in the tone and discipline of the schools and the behaviour of pupils has on the whole kept pace with the advance made in physical training. The more extended employment of trained teachers; the stricter application of the inter-school rules introduced at the commencement of the period under review, and the consequent weeding out of inefficient schools; the recent strengthening of the inspecting staff; the organisation of teachers' associations and students' clubs; the gradual extension of the hostel system; singing and the recitation of moral pieces of poetry—all these have had an elevating influence on the manners and morals of the pupils and the general tone of the schools. At the same time the manners of the boys when out of school and no longer under the direct control of their teachers still leave a good deal to be desired.

55. Literature and the Press.

Literature.

199. The total number of books and periodicals published during the year was 1,772, a marked decrease of 187 as compared with 1905. Urdu continues to claim the largest number of publications, namely, 708; Punjábi with 523 comes next as usual. The number of Hindi books is rising steadily.

Religion, as heretofore, is the favourite subject. "The Brahma Darshan," an exhaustive exposition of the religious beliefs of the Hindus, embodies the fruits of forty years' study by a gentleman of Delhi at the feet of great teachers. Similarly, the "Tajalmalúk," by an ancient Muhammadan saint, contains a series of luminous discourses on the principles of Islám. On a humbler plane, but none-the-less noteworthy, is the 'Sadharan Dharam' of Swami Shivgan, a succinct dissertation on the religious and moral duties of man. The year has been very fruitful in translations. Apart from the Mahábhárat and the Rámáyan of last year, parts of which still continue to be issued, the "Satyárth Parkásh" of Swami Dayanand has been rendered into English by Dr. C. Bhargava. "Zubdat-ul-Salikin," an Urdu version of the "Ghaniatul-Talibin," a standard work on Muhammadan law and religion, may also be mentioned. Intimately connected with religion are the old fashioned "Janam Sákhís" and "Tazkiras," lives and teaching of great Sikh and Muslim divines. These have little or no sense of proportion or of historical accuracy, but they have considerable hold on the popular mind, as is evidenced by the number of times they are reprinted. Moreover, these chronicles offer good material for fairly readable biographies, such as M. Firoz-ud-din's lives of the Caliphs Abubakar and Umar. Bhagat Ram Deva's life, issued by the Khalsa Tract Society, is also a work of the same type. In poetry there are signs of the growth of a new spirit. The Swádeshi and other movements that are stirring the minds of the people seem to have infused fresh life into the dry bones of Urdu poetry, as is shown by the appearance of the "Bhárat Darpan" by Pandit Braj Mohan Dattatreya, and a number of other poems imbued with these new ideas. The "Bhárat Darpan" is perhaps the most important poem of the year, both as regards form and matter. The poet seems to have thoroughly grasped the present situation. He minutely examines the present social and industrial condition of the Indian people, and points out that the remedy rests mainly with themselves.

Newspapers.

200. There were 257 newspapers published during the year. Of these 47 were published in English, 183 in Urdu, 1 in Urdu-Arabic, 1 in Hindi-Urdu, 11 in Hindi, 13 in Gurmukhi (Punjábi) and 1 in Tibetan. Five English and 39 Vernacular newspapers were started and 5 English and 42 Vernacular ceased to exist during the year, leaving a total of 210 on the register. One paper was published half-yearly, 2 quarterly, 102 monthly, 29 twice a month, 3 thrice a month, 105 weekly, 5 twice a week and 1 thrice a week. There were 9 daily papers.

Press prosecutions.

201. A prosecution was instituted against the proprietor and editor of the *Punjabee* under section 153 A, Indian Penal Code, for publishing articles intended to cause ill-feeling between classes, and both were sentenced to undergo six months' simple imprisonment. The editor and printer of the *Tribune* were also prosecuted by an officer of the Indian Medical Service for defamation and the case was not concluded at the end of the year.

56. Literary Societies.

202. [See Report for 1901-02. The subject will not be dealt with again till 1911-12.]

57. Arts and Sciences.

Lahore Museum.

203. The year has been one of steady progress, and the Curator reports that in many respects the Museum is nearing completion. Considerable progress has been made in the labelling and classification of the geological and natural history specimens. The numismatic branch has been improved by the completion of the collection of electrotype copies of coins of the Punjab, struck at various periods of its history; and a guide book to the Archæological Department has been completed by the Curator. Another remarkable feature

of the year has been the re-arrangement and enlarging of the fine arts section. This branch now contains a complete set of portraits of the Viceroys, of India, a set, not quite complete, of those of the Lieutenant-Governors of the Punjab, and an interesting selection of pictures of various Punjab celebrities, Indian and European. The attendance of the public generally remained stationary, but there was a marked rise in the number of female visitors. The Museum continues popular, and the conduct of the visiting public was satisfactory. Expenditure rose from Rs. 16,000 to Rs. 18,000, the Government grant having raised by Rs. 3,000 and a special grant of Rs. 9,000 having been made for building improvements.

CHAPTER VIII.

ARCHÆOLOGY.

[Detailed information on the subject of this chapter will be found in the following publications:—Administration Report of the Public Works Department, Punjab, Buildings and Roads Branch, for 1906-07; Annual Progress Reports of the Archæological Survey, Punjab and United Provinces Circle, for the year ending 31st March 1907.]

58. Archæology.

204. The Superintendent inspected the temple of Sakti Devi in the Chamba State which suffered severely in the earthquake of 1905. This building, like the image it enshrines, dates back to the beginning of the 8th century and is of great antiquarian value. It was found that the temporary measures taken for its preservation were quite inadequate, and detailed suggestions were made for permanent repairs to the Darbar. In the same way the Kashmir State was advised how best to preserve and restore the ancient monuments at the present city of Babor which represents the ruined old Babbapura, the ancient capital of the Dogras. Eight pictures and one brass statuette of the Lamaistic cult were acquired for the Lahore Museum.

CHAPTER IX.

MISCELLANEOUS.

59. Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction.

[See page 189 of the report for the year 1901-02. The Bishop also exercises ecclesiastical jurisdiction in the Persian Gulf.]

60. Ecclesiastical.

205. The various ecclesiastical institutions were noticed in the report for the year 1901-02. During the year under report, the restoration of the church at Dharmsala on its original lines was sanctioned, and the future maintenance of St. Margaret's church at Murree was undertaken by the Punjab Government at the instance of the Government of India.

61. Stationery.

206. The Punjab Administration draws its supply of stationery from the Calcutta stores. The value of stationery issued to officers in the Punjab during the year aggregated Rs. 1,80,910 as against Rs. 1,38,044 in the previous year. The details are as follows :—Cost of printing paper Rs. 44,512, office stationery Rs. 1,35,363 and padlocks Rs. 1,035 against Rs. 51,292, Rs. 85,501 and Rs. 1,251, respectively, last year.

62. Government Press.

207. The following statement compares the income and expenditure with the value of work turned out during the years 1905-06 and 1906-07 :—

Income.		Expenditure.		Value of work.	
1905-06.	1906-07.	1905-06.	1906-07.	1905-06.	1906-07.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
18,741	17,339	1,25,343	1,34,306	1,19,846	1,23,376

The income of the Press during the year under report was Rs. 17,339 as against Rs. 18,741 in the previous year. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 1,34,306 against Rs. 1,25,343 in 1905-06. The cost of work done by the Contractors for Government Printing for departments and offices during 1906-07 was Rs. 1,23,376 as against Rs. 1,19,846.